

OPINION 6
PLEDGE OF
INDEPENDENCE**MONEY 9**
RBI TO PAY ₹57,128 CRORE
DIVIDEND TO GOVT**SPORT 12**
LEIPZIG REACH
CL QUARTERS

RAIPUR, SATURDAY AUGUST 15, 2020; PAGES 12 ₹3



Cong wins Raj trust

Gehlot mocks BJP for abortive bid to topple his Govt

PNS ■ NEW DELHI/JAIPUR

The Ashok Gehlot dispensation won the confidence motion by a voice vote in the Rajasthan Assembly on Friday, ending the threat to its existence triggered by a rebellion within the Congress ranks in the State led by his former deputy Sachin Pilot.

The motion of confidence moved by Rajasthan Parliamentary Affairs Minister Shanti Dhariwal was passed by voice vote, an expected win after the return of the 19 dissident Congress MLAs led by Pilot to the party-fold.

Replying to the debate on the motion, Gehlot criticised the BJP, accusing it again of trying to bring down his Government. "I will not let the Government topple at any cost even if you make all attempts," he said.

Gehlot said the crisis had come to an end in a beautiful manner and this had hurt the BJP. "What was done in Arunachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Goa, Madhya Pradesh? Elected Governments are being toppled and democracy is under danger," he said, accusing the BJP of targeting the Congress Governments.

Without taking names, he alleged that a Union Minister was involved in the conspiracy to topple his Government, saying this had become clear after some audio clips surfaced.

The indirect reference was to Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, who had earlier rejected the Congress allegation.

Gehlot also questioned



whether agencies like ED, CBI and Income Tax department are not being misused in the country? "When you hold conversation on telephone, don't you say the other person to join you on Facebook and WhatsApp. Is this good thing in a democracy?" the CM said.

Gehlot also took potshots on the role of Governor with whom he and his party had to struggle to call the Special Session as the Raj Bhavan was reluctant.

"The post of the Governor has lost its dignity. Don't provoke me or else I will be forced to share what transpired between the Governor and me. I think the Governor was under pressure. Hundered editorials have been written about the situation in the State after the Governor returned the file on the State Government's wish to convene an Assembly session. The job of the Governor is no more than asking to prove majority in the House," Gehlot said in the Assembly.

Using his speech during

accused the Gehlot camp of blaming it for the infighting within the Congress.

Targeting the Chief Minister for his comments against his now sacked deputy, Leader of Opposition Gulab Chand Kataria questioned how Pilot became useless after the formation of the Government when he had strengthened the party while in Opposition.

I am the strongest warrior of Cong, avows Sachin Pilot

PTI ■ JAIPUR

Hitting out at the Opposition over its criticism of the recent political developments in Rajasthan, former Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot on Friday described himself as the "strongest warrior" of the Congress and said he would protect his party at all costs.

Pilot, who has returned to the Congress fold after a month-long rebellion against Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, made the remarks during the debate on a motion of confidence in the Assembly.

During the debate, Deputy Leader of the Opposition Rajendra Rathore mentioned Pilot's name in various matters, including the recent political developments in the State and a Special Operations Group (SOG) notice issued to him.

Covid 2.5 mn and counting

5.50L cases in past 10 days in India; Health Joint Secy Luv Agarwal tests +ve

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

**Covid-19
IN INDIA**
TOTAL
CASES: 25,25,144
DEATHS: 49,134
RECOVERED:
18,05,246
ACTIVE: 6,70,276


With over 60,000 cases daily for the past few days, India coronavirus count crossed 2.5 million mark on Friday. For the last 10 days, the country has witnessed a huge surge, adding 5.50 lakh fresh cases during this period. India now accounts for 10.35 per cent of all active cases globally (one in every 10 active cases), and 6.21% of all deaths (one in every 16).

Overall, five States with the biggest 24-hour jump in total cases are Maharashtra (12,608), Andhra Pradesh (8,943), Karnataka (7,908), Tamil Nadu (5,890) and Uttar Pradesh (4,512).

Meanwhile, the face of India's Covid-19 fight, Luv Agarwal, joint secretary of the Health Ministry, has also tested coronavirus positive.

"Dear All, just to inform that I have tested positive for Covid-19 and initiating home isolation as per guidelines. Requesting all my friends, colleagues for self monitoring. Contact tracing will be done by health team. Hoping to see everyone soon," he tweeted.

The condition of noted singer Balasubrahmanyam deteriorated and based on the advice of expert medical team attending to him, he has been moved to ICU and he is on life support and his condition remains critical.

According to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, India conducted record 8,48,728 tests for detection of

coronavirus in a day with an aim to achieve a daily target of 10 lakh and recovery rate rose to 71.17 per cent. The fatality rate has declined to 1.95 per cent. Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan claimed the recovery rate of Covid-19 patients in India is the best in the world.

Maharashtra reported 12608 fresh cases and 364 deaths in the last 24 hours, taking the total tally to 5,72,734 including 19,427 deaths. Nagpur district of Maharashtra recorded its highest single-day spike of over 1,000 coronavirus cases in the last 24 hours. Mumbai has reported 979 new infections and 47 deaths, taking the total tally to 1,28,550 and 7,035 deaths so far.

| STATES | TOTAL CASES | DEATHS | RECOVERED |
|----------------|-------------|--------|-----------|
| Maharashtra | 5,72,734 | 19,427 | 4,01,442 |
| Tamil Nadu | 3,26,245 | 5,514 | 2,67,015 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 2,73,085 | 2,475 | 1,80,703 |
| Karnataka | 2,11,108 | 3,718 | 1,28,182 |
| Delhi | 1,50,652 | 4,178 | 1,35,108 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 1,45,287 | 2,335 | 92,526 |
| West Bengal | 1,10,358 | 2,319 | 81,189 |
| Bihar | 98,370 | 500 | 65,307 |
| Telangana | 88,396 | 674 | 64,284 |
| Gujarat | 76,569 | 2,746 | 59,622 |
| Assam | 74,502 | 175 | 49,384 |
| Rajasthan | 58,692 | 846 | 43,897 |
| Odisha | 54,630 | 377 | 39,206 |
| Haryana | 45,614 | 518 | 38,348 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 43,414 | 1,081 | 32,405 |
| Kerala | 41,277 | 140 | 26,992 |

Amit Shah tests -ve, to stay put in home isolation

New Delhi: Home Minister Amit Shah, who was undergoing treatment for coronavirus at a private hospital in Gurugram, has tested negative. Shah, 55, said on the advice of the doctors, he will be in home isolation for the next few days.

"Today, my corona test report has come and it is negative. I thank God and express my heartfelt gratitude to all those who wished for my recovery," he tweeted.

He also thanked the doctors and paramedical staff of Medanta Hospital.

J&K Police scoops 2nd highest peacetime gallantry medal

ITBP recommends gallantry medals for 21 jawans who fought PLA troops

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Jammu & Kashmir Police has bagged the Kirti Chakra, the second highest peacetime gallantry medal that comes after the Ashok Chakra on the eve of 74th Independence Day and also earned a Shaurya Chakra, the third highest in precedence in the category. The J&K Police also topped the list of winners of Police Medals for Gallantry (PMG) by bagging 81 medals.

The CRPF follows the J&K Police with 51 medals, mostly for operations conducted in Jammu & Kashmir.

While the Kirti Chakra was awarded posthumously to Head Constable of Jammu & Kashmir Police Abdul Rashid Kalas, the Shaurya Chakra went to Deputy Inspector General of the J&K Police Amit Kumar.

The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) on Friday has



recommended gallantry medals to 21 troops who fought against China's People Liberation Army (PLA) in Eastern Ladakh in May-June, for this year's Independence Day.

The ITBP has accorded 294 commendation rolls and insignias to the paramilitary personnel for "displaying raw courage and bravery during face-offs and skirmishes in Eastern Ladakh in May-June, 2020," on the eve of the national festival.

"The ITBP troops not only effectively used shields to protect themselves but also responded fiercely to PLA advancing troops and

brought the situation under control. With the highest order of professional skills, ITBP troops fought shoulder to

shoulder and also brought the injured Indian Army troops to the rear," the ITBP said in a statement highlighting the bravery against the treachery of the PLA troops.

It further said, "Even when the ITBP troops fought the whole night, they received minimum casualties by giving befitting reply to the stone pelters of the PLA.

At places, they gave a determined standoff about 17 to 20 hours throughout the intervening nights."

the pioneer
WISHES ITS READERS
HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY
As our offices will be closed on August 15, 2020, the next edition will be published on August 17, 2020

CAPSULE

CONSTABLE KILLED IN MAHA NAXAL ATTACK

Nagpur/Mumbai: A constable was killed and his colleague injured in a Naxal attack in Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra on Friday morning, police said. A police official said as per preliminary information, the incident took place in Koti village under Bhamragadh taluka of the Naxal-hit district, around 170km from Nagpur in eastern Maharashtra.

DECOMPOSED BODY OF AIIMS DOC RECOVERED

New Delhi: The decomposed body of a 40-year-old AIIMS doctor was found hanging from the ceiling of his rented accommodation in South Delhi's Hauz Khas area on Friday afternoon, police said. Police received information about foul smell emanating from a house in Gautam Nagar.

SC holds Prashant Bhushan guilty of contempt of court

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday held activist-lawyer Prashant Bhushan guilty of criminal contempt for his two derogatory tweets against the judiciary saying they cannot be said to be a fair criticism of the functioning of the judiciary made in the public interest.

Holding that Bhushan attempted to scandalise the entire institution of the Supreme Court, the SC said: "If such an attack is not dealt with, with requisite degree of firmness, it may affect the national honour."

A bench of Justices Arun Mishra, BR Gavai and Krishna Murari said: "The tweets which are based on the distorted facts, in our considered view, amount to committing criminal contempt. In the result, we hold alleged contemnor No.1 - Mr. Prashant Bhushan guilty of having committed criminal contempt of this court."

The SC however discharged the notice issued to Twitter Inc after accepting its explanation that it is only an intermediary and does not have any control on what the users post on the platform.

Don't exceed your brief on sealing in Delhi, SC warns monitoring panel

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Encroachment is a matter of concern but the monitoring committee, set up in 2006 to identify unauthorised structures and check misuse of residential properties in Delhi, "cannot exceed its power" and take any action beyond its authorisation, the Supreme Court said on Friday.

A bench headed by Justice Arun Mishra said at no point of time, the SC has empowered the monitoring committee to take action with regard to "residential premises not used for commercial purpose" and it is not authorised to take action concerning residential

premises situated on private land.

The SC said this in its verdict in which it dealt with the authority of monitoring committee to seal residential premises on private land, when they are not being used for commercial purpose.

It directed the properties, sealed as per the committee's April last year report, be de-sealed and possession be restored to the owners. "Let this order be complied with within three days. However, we clarify that this order does not at all mean to belittle the yeoman service done by the monitoring committee for protection of Delhi," it said.

"IN THESE POLICIES, THE INVESTMENT RISK IN THE INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO IS BORNE BY THE POLICYHOLDER"

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CONGRATULATIONS INDIA WISHING YOU A HAPPY 74TH INDEPENDENCE DAY

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Government revises building construction rules

No permission required for house renovation

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The State Government has revised planning and building rules for construction of houses and multistoried apartments.

As per a notification for implementation of the Odisha Development Authorities (Planning & Building Standard) Rules, 2020, there shall be no sub rules set by the various development authorities for building houses.

"There will be no minimum plot-size restriction for construction of high-end apartments and no permission will be required for renovation of old houses. With implementation of the rule, one need not rush to Government offices time and again for housing plan approval. One can begin construction work by depositing a fixed amount and furnishing an undertaking," said Housing & Urban Development Minister Pratap Jena on Friday.

The Government has brought the rule by relaxing the existing system with an aim to encourage the real estate firms to provide houses at affordable costs to people of middle and upper-middle classes in urban areas. Under the new rule, the authorities have lifted the maximum floor area ratio (FAR) restriction on the low-risk buildings.

As per the revised rule, a building consisting of eight dwelling units would be regarded as an apartment, the Minister said.

In the real estate sector, the Government has provided relaxation in setback in context of construction.

The FAR to be purchased has been relaxed by 50%; and occupancy certificate would be provided in phases.

RTOs resume DLs, LLs, VAHAN services

BHUBANESWAR: The State Transport Authority (STA) has allowed resumption of driving licence, learner's licence and VAHAN services in all the Regional Transport Offices (RTOs) across the State.

Notably, in an earlier letter the General Administration and Public Grievance Department had banned the entry of outsiders in Government offices until August 31, 2020 to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

However, the letter also granted exclusive rights to the heads of the offices to allow office staffs and other authorised personnel into the premises.

So, exercising the discretionary power, the STA has directed all the RTOs to allow persons, applicants with valid appointments for DL/LL and VAHAN services.

To maintain uniformity in the slot duration, the STA has also directed all the RTOs to fix the slot duration as half an hour for DL/LL services.

The RTOs have been asked to decide the per slot quota and number of slots for DL, LL services on their own as per their existing infrastructure and volume of applications. **PNS**

Mobile app launched to counter Covid stigma

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

With a view to countering misinformation campaigns on Covid-19, the State Government has launched a mobile application to provide necessary details and proper guidance to people to help them combat the disease.

Developed by the State Government in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the app would generate awareness on the pandemic, especially among the younger population who account for 55.49 % of the State's total Covid count.

Out of the State's 52,653 Covid-19 cases so far, 29,999 are in the age group of 15 to 40 years and 15,638 in 41 to 60 years age bracket, an official said.

The new app would provide

scientific information on Covid-19 in English and Odia and help dispel myths and prevent ostracisation of corona patients.

"Videos on safety measures and guidelines to control the spread of the disease, along with other dos and don'ts, are also available on the app. The self-learning software can be downloaded from Google Play Store," the official informed.

Earlier on Wednesday, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik had said that those asymptomatic or with mild symptoms are finding it difficult to undergo home isolation due to the social stigma associated with the viral disease.

The fear and stigma surrounding Covid-19 must be removed from the minds of the people so that more and more people can opt for home isolation, the CM said.

Researchers identify 73 Covid strain variants

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

A team of genomic researchers from the CSIR-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (IGIB), New Delhi and the Institute of Medical Sciences and SUM Hospital, Bhubaneswar has identified 73 novel variants of the Covid-19 strain for the first time.

The researchers, who carried out sequencing of 1,536 samples, including 752 clinical samples, reported two lineages B.1.112 and B.1.99 for the first time in India, Dr Jayashankar Das, Lead Investigator and Director (Research) of IMS and SUM Hospital, said on Friday.

Dr Das said the research team, supported by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), validated the most advanced COVIDSeq technology for the first time in the world which could be a potential high-sensitivity assay for detection of SARS-CoV-2 with the additional advantage of enabling genetic epidemiology of SARS-CoV-2. With this study, India beat 12 organisations in ten countries to complete the first-field validation and released the data online as per a report by Sequencing Giant tech Illumina.

The IMS and SUM Hospital researchers are also undertaking sequencing and analysis of 500 viral genomes to understand the mild, moderate and critical coronavirus infection along with its transmission capabilities, he said.

Besides, the study would help understand the vulnerability of the strains, new therapeutic target, new mutation in eastern India specifically to Odisha. "This is the first ever attempt in the world to have such a large scale detection, surveillance and genetic epidemiology of Covid-19 in a single run," Dr Das said.

N'singhpur: Two groups clash; 3 injured

NARASINGHPUR: As many as three persons were injured and properties worth lakhs of rupees were damaged as two groups belonging to two villages brawled over construction of a house on a Government land at Paikapada Patna under Cuttack district's Narasinghpur police limits on Thursday.

The injured were identified as Salu Nayak, Bichi Nayak and Prashant Nayak.

According to information, Paikapada Patna Sarpanch's mother Sulochana Behera had been residing in a house constructed on a piece of land along the Paikapada Patana-Mundagada road for long. However, nearby Phulapada villagers had appraised the local Tehsildar that the concerned land belonged to their revenue village.

Based on the complaint, Tehsildar Akash Ranjan Sahoo conducted an inquiry and, finding that the land belongs to the Government, imposed Section 144 of the CrPC on the said land and issued a show-cause notice to Sulochana, asking her to give a reply within one month time. **PNS**

No question of withdrawal of free power to farmers till I'm CM: Amarinder

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Friday made it clear that there was no question of withdrawing free power to farmers in the state, and the same will continue as long as he is leading the Government.

The Chief Minister said that though the report of the

Montek Singh Ahluwalia led experts group was only a preliminary one, his Government would not consider any recommendation on withdrawal of free power by any expert. "As long as I am here, free power to tubewells will continue," he said.

Montek himself clarified during a videoconference interaction with the Chief Minister

that the report of the expert group was not anti-farmer. "Media reports suggesting so were misleading, he said, adding that what the Group had suggested was diversification as the only hope for Punjab agriculture.

He said that since the State Government had categorically announced that it had no plans to change its free power for

farmers policy, the Expert Group had recommended that farmers must be incentivised to diversify out of rice, since the water intensive crop was economically profitable for farmers even though the ecological damage was massive.

"Diversification implies a reduction in area under rice and modernisation of marketing, which in turn implies a

much larger role for the private sector," said Montek.

The Expert Group under Montek Singh Ahluwalia was set up by the Chief Minister to formulate a strategy for post-COVID economic revival of Punjab. Capt Amarinder said diversification had already been started in Punjab during his first term as the Chief Minister. He pointed out that

the State had significantly increased cotton this year by reducing paddy, but the problem of price support remains a big obstacle to diversification.

The farmers need MSP for alternate crops to incentivise them away from paddy, he added.

Punjab was a power-surplus state, which was why the Government had also fixed

industrial power rate at Rs five per unit, in order to incentivize industry to invest in the state, the Chief Minister said.

He underlined the need for promoting industry with the potential to generate more employment.

Noting that no modern economy could grow only on agriculture, the Chief Minister stressed the importance of

focusing on industrialisation.

He suggested setting up a world-class university in Mohali to accelerate investment.

Underscoring the need for long-term planning to restore Punjab to its position of pre-eminence, Montek said that the State had done better than others in handling the COVID crisis.

Ministry of Information & Broadcasting
Government of India

74th Independence Day

Independence Day

Greetings to all fellow citizens

Jai Hind

“15th August is a day to pay homage to all those greats who worked hard for India's freedom. Their struggles continue to give strength to millions. Independence Day is an occasion to reaffirm our commitment to build an India that would make our respected freedom fighters proud.”

- Narendra Modi

Independence Day Ceremony at the ramparts of Red Fort to be live telecast by Doordarshan 6:25 a.m. onwards

Plea in HC for contempt action against police for not preparing manual to deal with mentally ill



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

A plea was moved in the Delhi High Court on Friday seeking contempt action against the police for not complying with a judicial direction to prepare a manual for dealing with cases under the Mental Healthcare Act 2017.

The petition by lawyer Gaurav Kumar Bansal contended that the high court in 2018 directed Delhi Police to create a manual to deal with cases under the Mental Healthcare Act.

However, according to response received from police under the Right to Information Act, the manual was being prepared, Bansal claims in his plea.

He has contended that

due to non-availability of a manual to handle cases under the MH Act, vulnerable section of the society, specifically the elderly, women, homeless and orphans, who are facing mental health issues are facing problems.

He has also claimed that there are around two lakh mentally ill homeless persons living on the streets of the national capital and it is the duty of police, under the MH Act, to protect them.

Bansal has said, in his plea, that due to lack of a manual or protocol, police officers face difficulty in following section 100 of the MH Act which lays down duty of police officers in respect of persons with mental illness.

AU SMALL FINANCE BANK LIMITED (Formerly known as Au FINANCIER'S (INDIA) LIMITED)
Regd. Office: 19-A, Dhuleshwar Garden, Ajmer Road, Jaipur - 302001 (CIN:L36911RJ1996PLC011381)

APPENDIX IV [SEE RULE 8(I)] POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the AU Small Finance Bank Limited (Formerly known as AU Financiers (India) Limited) under the "Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest [Act, 2002 (54 of 2002)] and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notice on the date as mentioned below calling upon the borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the said notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice as per the details given in below table:-

| Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/ Mortgagee/Guarantor | 13(2) Notice Date & Amount | Description of Property Mortgaged | Date of Possession Taken |
|---|---|--|--------------------------|
| Haribhajan Singh Thakur, Smt. Durgeshwari, (A/C No.) L9001060715997194 | 25-Nov-19 ₹ 15,98,629/- Rs. Fifteen Lac Ninety Eight Thousand Six Hundred Twenty Nine only as on 20-Nov-19 | All That Part And Parcel Of Residential/Commercial Property Land / Building / Structure And Fixtures Situated At Ph No 3 , Plot Of Durgeshwari , Khasra No 130/36 , Vill. Talpur , Raveli , Tehsil Kawardha , Kabirdham , Chattisgarh. Admeasuring 1450 Sq. Ft. , East: Nistari Rasta, West: Land Of Hoop Singh, North: Nistari Rasta, South: Satish Tiwari | 10-Aug-20 |
| Sharad Kumar Mahendra, Smt. Jayanti Bai, Mahesh Kumar Mahendra, Premnarayan, (A/C No.) L9001060713469971 | 17-Jan-20 ₹ 10,59,737/- Rs. Ten Lac Fifty Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Seven Only as on 16-Jan-20 | All That Part And Parcel Of Residential/Commercial Property Land / Building / Structure And Fixtures Situated At Residential Flat At Survey No. 662 Part , Magarload , Tehsil & Dist. Dhamtari, Chattisgarh. Admeasuring 6456 Sq. Ft. East: Land Of Pardesi, West: Grass Land, North: Land Of Manik, South: Grass Land | 08-Aug-20 |

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, therefore notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein above mentioned table in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said [Act] read with Rule 8 of the said rule on the date mentioned in the above table.

"The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets."

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the AU Small Finance Bank Limited (Formerly known as AU Financiers (India) Limited) for the amount and interest thereon mentioned in the above table.

Date : 14/08/2020
Place : Chattisgarh

sd/-
Authorised Officer AU Small Finance Bank Limited

कार्यालय संयुक्त संचालक एवं अधीक्षक डॉ. भीमराव अम्बेडकर स्मृति चिकित्सालय, रायपुर (छ.ग.)

क्रमांक /डॉ.भी.अ.च./ क्रय 13096 रायपुर दिनांक 13/8/2020

“ई-प्रोक्चोरमेंट सिस्टम निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना”

डॉ. भीमराव अम्बेडकर स्मृति चिकित्सालय रायपुर के लिए कार्डियोलॉजी विभाग के लिए इम्प्लांट एवं अन्य सामग्रियां क्रय करने हेतु ऑन लाइन निविदा क्रमांक 66931 आमंत्रित की गई है। इसका विस्तृत विवरण वेबसाइट <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> पर सिस्टम टेण्डर क्रमांक 66931 में देखा जा सकता है।

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| BID SUBMISSION START DATE | 13 AUG, 2020 4:00:00 PM IST |
| BID DUE DATE | 31 AUG, 2020 12:00:00 PM IST |
| PHYSICAL FDR SUBMISSION END DATE | 31 AUG, 2020 12:30:00 PM IST |
| BID OPNE DATE (SCHEDULED) | 31 AUG, 2020 1:00:00 PM IST |

संयुक्त संचालक एवं अधीक्षक
डॉ. भीमराव अम्बेडकर स्मृति चिकित्सालय
G- 83004/3 Ryp/Dtd 14.8.20

रायपुर (छ.ग.)

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER WATER RESOURCES DIVISION NO.2 RAMANUJGANJ

[First- CALL]

e-Procurement Tender Notice
eProcurement Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>
Tender cancellation Notice

No. 08 /SAC/2020-21 Date 24-07-2020

The tender invited vide N.L.T. No. 01/SAC/2020-21 Date- 02-06-2020 System Tender No.64511 for Name of work :- Renovation & CC Lining of Main Canal at RD. 0.00 M. to 2220 M., RD. 2220 M. to 5250 M. & CC Lining of Minor No. 1 at RD. 0.00 to 870.00 M. and its 39 nos. Structures of Nawadih (Tatapani) Tank Scheme. Whose "G" No.81280 Date 04-06-2020 is here by cancelled Due to unavoidable circumstances.

(UmaShankar Ram)
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
WATER RESOURCES DIVISION No. 2
RAMANUJGANJ
Distt.-BALLRAMPUR-RAMANUJGANJ (C.G.)
For, Chief Engineer
Hasdeo Ganga Basin, W.R. Deptt.
Amolikapur, Sarguja (C.G.)

G- 83026/6 Ryp/Dtd 14.8.20

Baghel objects to draft EIA notification

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has objected to draft EIA Notification, 2020, saying the draft in its current form has completely ignored the sensitivity required for conservation of environment and achieving objective of sustainable development.

In his letter written to Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate change Prakash Javadekar, the chief minister highlighted various objections in the draft.

The chief minister said that Chhattisgarh is predominantly a tribal state and has 44% forest cover.

Areas of the state of Chhattisgarh like Bastar, Surguja, Korea, Kawardha etc have been included in the 'Scheduled Area' under Article 244(1) of the constitution of India (Fifth Schedule), which provides protection to these Scheduled Area against such laws derogatory to the land rights of indigenous population of Chhattisgarh.

At the outset, an executive action by way of a 'Notification' cannot over-ride the statutory protection granted under FRA and PESA. Therefore, the EIA Notification, 2020 should be in consonance with the rights of the Tribals and Panchayats as mentioned above.

स्वतंत्रता दिवस की बधाई



Prakash

प्रकाश इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड


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AM/NS INDIA



आर्सेलरमिच्छल निष्पॉन स्टील इंडिया लिमिटेड
(ए. एम. एन. एस. इंडिया)

परिवार की ओर से आप सभी को स्वतंत्रता दिवस की **हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं**

प्रेषक
ए. एम. एन. एस. इंडिया
बेनिफिसियेशन प्लांट, किरंदुल



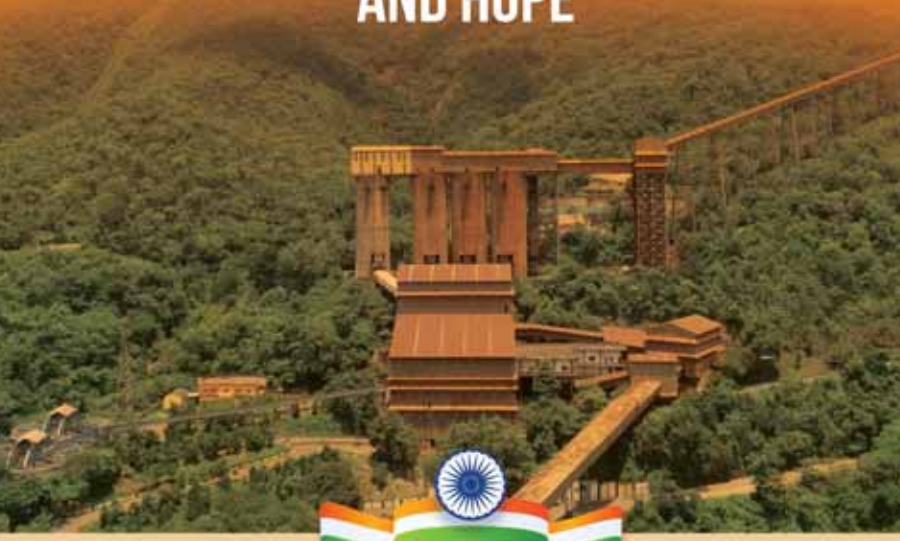
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ECO FRIENDLY MINER

Prez Kovind lauds efforts of frontline corona warriors

Says nation is 'indebted to doctors, nurses and other health workers'



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

President Ram Nath Kovind on Friday lauded the efforts of healthcare professionals at the frontline in the country's fight against the coronavirus pandemic and said the nation is "indebted to doctors, nurses and other health workers". He said the celebrations this year will be restrained without the customary pomp and show owing to the pandemic which has "altered the world we live in."

Addressing the nation on the eve of the 74th Independence Day, the President termed the Government's response to the Covid-19 challenge as "super-human".

Lauding the Centre and State Government for taking steps to contain the transmission of novel coronavirus, Kovind said India's role in dealing with the pandemic is a lesson for the world.

The President also spoke on the Galwan Valley face-off in which 20 Indian soldiers

were killed fighting the Chinese army in June this year in eastern Ladakh. "Our brave soldiers laid down their lives defending our borders. Those worthy sons of Bharat Mata lived and died for national pride. Their bravery in combat has demonstrated that while we believe in peace, we are also capable of giving a befitting response to any attempt of aggression," he said.

"Even while the world community needs to fight together against the greatest challenge before humanity, some in our neighbourhood tried to carry out their misadventure of expansion. Our brave soldiers laid down their lives defending our borders. Those worthy sons of Bharat Mata lived and died for national pride. The entire nation salutes the martyrs of Galwan Valley. Every Indian feels grateful to their family members."

"Their bravery in combat has demonstrated that while we believe in peace, we are also capable of giving a befitting response to any attempt of

Naresh wins police medal for record 7th time for fighting terrorists in J&K

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

CRPF Assistant Commandant Naresh Kumar has scripted history by receiving his 7th Police Medal for Gallantry in a short span of four years for his gallant action against the terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir.

"An officer with sharp tactical acumen and indomitable courage, Naresh Kumar has led the CRPF Valley QAT (Quick Action Team) in Srinagar which has a glorious history of continued success marked with numerous Gallantry medals that embellish its valour," the CRPF said in a statement.

Assistant Commandant Kumar got his first medal in 2017 for an operation which was conducted in Srinagar in 2016. Here, he neutralised two foreign terrorists whereas in 2018, he was awarded with two PMGs for neutralising two Hizbul Mujahideen commanders in an fierce operation which lasted for three days.

This year alone, the Valley QAT has been adorned with

more than 15 Gallantry medals. Furthermore, the erstwhile IG Srinagar, CRPF Ravideep Singh Sahi and the present valley QAT Commander, Loukrakpam Ibomcha Singh and his team mate Constable Devsant Kumar have been awarded with Police Medal for Gallantry for a courageous operation in Srinagar on October 3, 2017 where two militants were neutralised by the security forces.

For Loukrakpam Ibomcha Singh, this is his 3rd Gallantry Medal and second PMG while Constable Devsant Kumar will be receiving the PMG for the second time.

Yet another story of grit and courage relates to 208 CoBRA where the team of gallant warriors came under a heavy attack from Maoists in jungles of Sukma, Chhattisgarh on March 03/04, 2016, the troops retaliated with bravery and forced the Maoists to give up their nefarious designs, the CRPF said.

In this long lasting encounter nine Maoists were neutralised while five were injured. Three Bravehearts of

208 CoBRA made supreme sacrifice serving the nation. For their indomitable gallantry and courage in the face of danger during the operation, 208 CoBRA has been awarded with eight PMGs with three being awarded posthumously.

CRPF—the largest Central Armed Police Force of the country, has been awarded with as many as 55 Police Medals for Gallantry on the eve of Independence Day, which is the second highest force after the Jammu and Kashmir police that bagged 81 medals.

With this, the total number of gallantry medals won by the deserving Force personnel till now has reached to 2036, the highest among all the CAPFs in the country.

"The narrative behind each of these Gallantry Medals speaks the language of courage, dedication to duty, devotion for the motherland and over and above a steely resolve to deliver, which is the hallmark of Internal Security Warriors," added the C R P F

India won't compromise with its self-esteem, says Rajnath

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As the situation on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Eastern Ladakh remains tense for nearly three months now, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday said India has never attacked anywhere to capture land of others. Reiterating this, he also said India believes in winning hearts and not land. "But it does not mean we will let our self-esteem be hurt," he said.

Making this assertion during the customary address to the troops on the eve of the Independence Day, he, however, cautioned if attacked India as always will give a befitting reply. He, however, did not name China.

"Whatever we do in national security, we always do it for self-defence, not for attacking others. If enemy

country ever attacked us, like every time we will give a befitting reply," he said.

His observations came in the backdrop of five rounds of military level and four at the diplomatic level in the past few weeks failing to resolve the stand-offs now on at four friction points. Moreover, China has not withdrawn its troops from these sites despite agreement thereby leading to tension in the area.

In his address, the defence minister assured that the government is doing all that is necessary to keep our forces morale high and fulfill their all operational requirement.

Later in his tweet message, he paid tributes to the soldiers. "On the eve of India's Independence Day, I salute the indomitable courage of the brave soldiers of our Armed Forces who are self-

lessly serving the nation. Their unmatched courage and patriotism has ensured that our country is safe," he said.

In another tweet, the minister said the Government is leaving no stone unturned to strengthen the armed forces and ensure the welfare of their families and the ex-servicemen.

Amid the ongoing stand-off, the Defence Ministry has given the armed forces emergency financial powers to procure weapons systems up to Rs 300 crores on an urgent basis without any further clearances to cut short the procurement cycle.

The Services have embarked on major procurements of ammunition, anti-tank missiles, man portable air defences, unmanned aerial vehicles among others.

being the citizen of a free nation.

August 15 fills us with the excitement of unfurling the tricolour, taking part in celebrations and listening to patriotic songs.

On this day, the youth of India should feel the special pride of being citizens of a free nation. We gratefully remember our freedom fighters and martyrs whose sacrifices have enabled us to live in an independent nation," the president said.

Def Min launches portal providing access to defence vendors



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Days after banning import of 101 weapon systems to make the Indian defence industry self-reliant, the Government on Friday signed four contracts as part of Defence India Start Up challenge in the presence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.

On the final day of 'Atmanirbhar Week' celebration of the Defence Ministry, he also launched Department of Defence Production (DDP) portal SRIJAN which is a 'one stop shop online portal that provides access to the vendors to take up items that can be taken up for indigenisation. A number of Expressions of inter-

est/Requests for Proposal were also issued.

Speaking on the occasion, Rajnath said signing of these MoUs and contracts will lead us to self-reliance in the technologies related to defence manufacturing. He called upon the Indian industry partners to show complete commitment and take proactive participation in the pursuit of Indigenisation and self-reliance in the defence sector.

Commending the DDP for creating SRIJAN portal, the minister said this will help industry partners to play active role in the goal of self-reliance in defence sector. Pursuant to Atmanirbhar Bharat announcement, Department of Defence

Production has developed an indigenization portal, srijan-defence.gov.in, as "opportunities for Make in India in Defence", which will give information on items that can be taken up for indigenisation by the private sector.

On this portal, DPSUs/OFB/SHQs can display their items which they have been importing or are going to import which the Indian Industry can design, develop and manufacture as per their capability or through joint venture with OEMs. The Indian Industry will be able to show their interest.

There are over 3,000 unique items with a value of over ₹10,000 Crore that are available through the portal.

Former Maha CM Fadnavis may get key role in Bihar election

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The BJP is expected to give former Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis a key role in the Bihar election, due later this year.

A move is afoot to appoint Fadnavis as election-in-charge of Bihar polls, according to sources.

The former Maharashtra Chief Minister's role assumes importance in the backdrop of a raging controversy around the death of Sushant Singh Rajput, a young and rising Bollywood actor and a native of Bihar. Sushant's parents have lodged an FIR in the state in the case.

The BJP has been alleging that the Mumbai police under the Shiv Sena-NCP-Congress coalition was not conducting a fair probe in the circumstances leading to what has initially been termed as "suicide".

Fadnavis has been in the forefront in attacking Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray and his son for the handling of the actor's case and demanding a CBI probe into his death and "justice" for him.

The issue of the 34-year-old actor's death triggered charges and counter-charges between the two States with

Maharashtra Shiv Sena leaders accusing the BJP-JD (U) coalition Government in Bihar of politicising the investigation to serve its political ends when assembly polls are round the corner.

The Bihar Government's eagerness to take up the case of Rajput is seen by many as a move to consolidate "thakur votes" in the state as also a gesture that the Nitish Kumar-led government was standing by its 'son of the soil' and his family in distress.

The reports of the appointment of Fadnavis have been growing since he chaired a core committee meeting of the BJP's Bihar unit party on August 13 and BJP President J P Nadda directing leaders in Bihar unit to brief former Maharashtra Chief Minister on the campaign strategy.

Fadnavis, the first Brahmin CM of Maharashtra who lost his second run in the state as CM, has been living in political shadows in Maharashtra after the 'Maha vikas Aghadi' coalition took reins of governance in the State.

The BJP is also expecting to benefit from Fadnavis' Brahmin origins. Brahmins constitute 5 percent of the population in Bihar.

India exports 23 lakh PPEs to 5 countries

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With export norms relaxed, India managed to export 23 lakh Personnel Protection Equipments to five countries namely the USA, the UK, UAE, Senegal and Slovenia in just a month.

"This has substantially aided India to position itself in the global export market of PPEs," said a statement from the Union Health Ministry.

PPEs are a crucial medical resource for frontline workers during the pandemic that include body coveralls, N-95 masks, goggles, face shields among others.

According to the Ministry, the 'Make in India' spirit embedded in the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan' has resulted in providing resilience and self-sufficiency" to the country for various medical equipment including PPEs.

While the Union

Government is supplying PPE kits, N95 masks, ventilators etc., to the State governments and union territories administrations, states are also procuring these items directly.

"Between March and August 2020, they have procured 1.40 crore indigenous PPE from their own budgetary resources. During the same period, the Centre has distributed 1.28 crore PPE to states, UTs and central institutions, free of cost," said the ministry in a statement.

The Centre has been leading the graded, pre-emptive, proactive and collaborative response and management of COVID-19, along with the states union territories.

As part of its continued efforts towards progressively augmenting and strengthening the medical infrastructure across the country, various policy decisions have been taken on a regular basis.

At the start of the pandemic, there was a global shortage of all kinds of medical equipment including N95 masks, PPE kits, ventilators etc, the ministry underlined.

Most of the products were not being manufactured in the country in the beginning as many of the necessary components were to be procured from other countries. The rising global demand due to the pandemic resulted in their scarce availability in the foreign markets, it stated.

Turning the pandemic into an opportunity to develop its domestic market for production of medical equipment, with the combined efforts of ministries of health, textiles, pharmaceuticals, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Defence Research and Development Organisation and others, India has hugely ramped up its own manufacturing capacity, the ministry said.

Number of deaths due to smokeless tobacco in India is on rise: Study

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The number of deaths due to smokeless tobacco in India is on the rise, accounting for 70 per cent of deaths in the South-East Asia region followed by Pakistan (seven per cent) and Bangladesh which accounts five per cent of the global disease burden due to smokeless tobacco.

Researchers added that deaths due to it globally has

also gone up by a third in seven years to an estimated 350,000 people.

The research, published in the journal BMC Medicine, comes at a time when there are concerns that spitting - a behaviour common among those who chew tobacco - is likely to transmit the Covid-19 virus.

"The study has come at a time when Covid-19 is affecting almost all aspects of our lives. Chewing tobacco increases

es saliva production and leads to compulsive spitting," said study researcher Kamran Siddiqui from the University of York in the UK.

There are concerns that spitting - a behaviour common among those who chew tobacco - is likely to transmit the virus to others.

"In acknowledgement of this, India, for example, has already taken a positive step by banning spitting in public places to reduce the transmission of COVID-19," Siddiqui added.

The study estimated that in 2017 alone smokeless tobacco resulted in more than 90,000 deaths due to cancers of the mouth, pharynx and oesophagus and accounted for more than 258,000 deaths from heart disease.

Millions more have their lives shortened by ill-health due to the effects of chewing tobacco-based products, the study reveals.

| GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|
| SR. No. | NAME OF DEPARTMENT | NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER | OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE | AMOUNT / EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES | WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT | NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL |
| 1 | PWD B&R AMBALA | SPECIAL REPAIR AND RENOVATION OF OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PROVINCIAL DIVISION NO.1, PWD B&R, BRANCH, AMBALA CANTT IN AMBALA DISTRICT (RE-INVITED) | 13.08.2020 27.08.2020 | 51.42 LACS | http://etenders.hry.nic.in | 0171-2977224 Pwdeedp1-ambala@hry.nic.in |
| 2 | PWD B&R KARNAL | PROVIDING ADDITIONAL CCTV CAMERAS IN THE CAMPUS OF JUDICIAL COMPLEX AT PANIPAT 2020, HRY. 130016, 2 + 4 OTHER WORKS | 13.08.2020 24.08.2020 | 23.34 LACS | http://etenders.hry.nic.in | 0184-2265696 pwwd-eeed-karnal@hry.nic.in |
| 3 | PWD B&R FATEHABAD | CONSTRUCTION OF PRIMARY HEALTH CENTRE WITH ACCOMMODATIONS AT HIZRAWAN KALAN IN FATEHABAD DISTRICT. +2 OTHER WORKS | 11.08.2020 25.08.2020 | 340.57 LACS | http://etenders.hry.nic.in | 90531-14455 01667-220120 pwwd-eeep-fatehabad@hry.nic.in |
| 4 | PWD B&R, PANIPAT | CONSTRUCTION OF 2 NOS HOUSES FOR CIVIL JUDGE SENIOR & JUNIOR DIVISION IN SDO CIVIL CUM JUDICIAL COMPLEX AT SAMALHA IN PANIPAT DISTT (RE-INVITED) | 13.08.2020 27.08.2020 | 250.93 LACS | http://etenders.hry.nic.in | 0180-2638552 |
| 5 | PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING GOHANA | DNIT FOR PROVIDING FUNCTIONAL HOUSEHOLD TAP CONNECTION WITH DISTRIBUTION PIPELINE IN VILLAGE DHURANA TEHSIL GOHANA DISTT. SONPAT. "PROVIDING FUNCTIONAL HOUSEHOLD TAP CONNECTION WITH LAYING OF DISTRIBUTION PIPELINE IN VILLAGE DHURANA AND ALL OTHER WORKS CONTINGENT THERETO. + 8 OTHER WORKS" | 13.08.2020 25.08.2020 | 105.10 LACS | https://etenders.hry.nic.in TENDER NO. 2019_HRY_139318, 1 + 8 other | 01263-258417 ee1gohana@gmail.com ee1gohana@phedharyana.gov.in |
| 6 | PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT NARNAUL | LAYING OF SEWER LINES IN BALANCE APPROVED AREA OF NARNAUL TOWN DISTT. MAHENDERGARH. "PROVIDING & LAYING OF 1000 MM OD HOPE PIPE SEWER BY TRENCHLESS TECHNOLOGY AT REWARI ROAD NARNAUL TOWN AND ALL OTHER WORKS CONTINGENT THERETO" | 17.08.2020 28.08.2020 | 89.42 LACS | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | 01282-260091/ eeepnarnaul@gmail.com |
| 7 | PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT AMBALA | PROVIDING 4 NO. T-WELLS IN PLACE OF FAILED JAL JEEVAN MISSION IN VILL. BANISCHAHANO AND SAMANI, DISTT. KURUKSHETRA AND VILL. SHADIPUR SAHIDAN AND SHAMASPUR, DISTT. KURUKSHETRA. EMD AMT. RS. 56600/- + 3 OTHER WORKS | 14.08.2020 27.08.2020 | 100.15 LACS | http://etenders.hry.nic.in TENDER NO. 2020_HRY_139439, 1 | 0171-2631402 eemambala@phedharyana.gov.in |
| 8 | PUBLIC HEALTH ENGG. DIVISION KARNAL | A/MTC ESTIMATE FOR WATER SUPPLY SCHEME GHARAUNDA TOWN. "OPERATION & MAINTENANCE OF ALL STRUCTURES/COMPONENTS, PUMP CHAMBER, BOUNDARY WALL, DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM, TUBEWELLS, PUMPING MACHINERY, QHSR, ETC. WATER SUPPLY SCHEME GHARAUNDA TOWN AND ALL OTHER WORKS CONTINGENT THERETO FOR THE PERIOD OF 36 MONTHS". (FROM THE DATE OF COMMENCEMENT) | 13.08.2020 27.08.2020 | 220.07 LACS | http://etenders.hry.nic.in TENDER NO 2020_HRY_139384 | 0184-2266004/ eeepkarnal@gmail.com |
| 9 | IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT PANCHKULA | CONSTRUCTING RETAINING WALL AND CRATED WIRE STR. NEAR LAND OF SH. KARNAL SINGH NEAR TANGRI NADI IN VILLAGE NARAIPUR BLOCK, RAIPUR RANI. + 2 OTHER WORKS | CLOSING DATE 28.08.2020 | 29.22 LACS | http://etenders.hry.nic.in | 0172-2570325 xencost1@yahoo.com |
| 10 | IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT KURUKSHETRA | REPAIRING AND STRENGTHENING OF PINDARSI MINOR FROM RD 0 TO 38630. | 12.08.2020 20.08.2020 | 10.26 LACS | http://etenders.hry.nic.in | 01744-239164 xewsdvnmkra@gmail.com |
| 11 | PANCHAYATI RAJ, SONIPAT | REPAIR OF PANCHAYAT SADAN AT VILLAGE MIMARPUR SITE PROPOSED TO BE CHANGED AT VILLAGE KANI & OTHER 3 NOS. WORKS (RE-INVITING) | 10.08.2020 20.08.2020 | 11.97 LACS | http://etenders.hry.nic.in | Executive Engineer |
| 12 | PANCHAYATI RAJ, KATHAL | COMPLETION OF PANCHAYAT GHAR/RSKS | 17.08.2020 31.08.2020 | 3.41 LACS | http://etenders.hry.nic.in | 01746-234748 |

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in

RO NO. 82273

| NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE | |
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| The Deputy Chief Engineer/Survey & Const., Tilak Bridge, Northern Railway, New Delhi, for and on behalf of the President of India invites open e-tender for the following work: | |
| Mode of Tender | E-Tender (Single Packet) |
| Tender Notice No. | 281-W/S&C/TKJ/FLS/NL/HRI-GHJ/2020 dated: 14.08.2020 |
| Full name of work | Final Location Survey (FLS) for new line between Hardoi-Gursahaiganj via Sandi (59.300 kms.). Carrying out detail Engineering survey including Levelling, alignment, soil exploration, preparation of plans, L-sections, GA plans of Bridges etc., bill of quantities and other ancillary activities related in connection with preparation of DPR. |
| Approx. cost | Rs. 49,29,143/- (Rs. Forty Nine Lakhs Twenty Nine thousand One hundred Forty Three only). |
| Completion period | 06 Months (Six months) |
| Earnest money amount | Rs. 98,600/- (Rs. Ninety Eight thousand and Six hundred only) |
| Sale/availability of tender document on Rly. Website | Tender documents will be available on IREPS web site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in from 15.08.2020 to 07.09.2020 upto 11.30 hrs. |
| Last date/Time of upload of tenders | 07.09.2020 upto 11.30 hours. tender documents can be uploaded by the tenderer(s) on IREPS web site w.e.f 23.08.2020 to 07.09.2020. |
| Date and time of opening of tender | 07.09.2020 at 11.30 hours. (immediately after close of uploading of tender (D2) in the office of Chief Administrative Officer/Const. N.Rly. Kashmir Gate, Delhi-110006). |
| This notice is available on www.nr.indian.railways.gov.in web site and documents on www.ireps.gov.in site is available. | |
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BENGALURU VIOLENCE

‘Riots started within 3 hours of FB post’

Bengaluru: The recent Bengaluru riots occurred at breakneck speed, erupting in less than three hours of the derogatory message being put up on social media, a police official said on Friday. “Naveen posted the derogatory message around 6 p.m. and by 9 pm the riots erupted,” Central Crime Branch (CCB) Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) Kuldeep Jain told IANS. The government machinery was already strained with battling the Coronavirus pandemic, and the riots caught them unawares. On Tuesday night, hundreds of people ran amok after Pulikeshinagar’s Congress MLA Akhanda Srinivas Murthy’s nephew P Naveen posted a derogatory message on social media. The mob pelted stones, injuring 60 police-

men, and committed acts of vandalism and arson in DJ Halli, KG Halli, Pulikeshinagar and Kaval Byrasandra areas. “As soon as the news reached the police, cops from nearby police stations rushed to the spot,” said Jain. Police Commissioner Kamal Pant himself rushed to the riot-affected areas to monitor the situation. The police was initially overwhelmed with the rioters outnumbering them. “By that time whatever preventive things we could do, we tried it out. All that did not calm down the mob,” he said. It was only after the police fired in the air and later at the rioters, leading to the death of three people, did the situation come under control. **IANS**

Terrorists kill two cops on outskirts of Srinagar

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Ahead of the Independence Day celebrations, heavily armed terrorists, believed to be the cadre of Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) terror outfit on Friday shot dead two policemen and wounded another in “indiscriminate” firing on the outskirts of Srinagar near Nowgam bypass. The terrorists seem to have done thorough recon of the area before targeting the patrol party of Jammu & Kashmir police. They disappeared in the bylanes of the densely populated area even before the security personnel could chase them. Inspector General of police, Kashmir range, Vijay Kumar who visited the spot told reporters, “the terrorists emerged from Gulshan street on the outskirts of the Srinagar city near Nowgam bypass and targeted the policemen by opening indiscriminate firing around 9.30 a.m.” He said three policemen received injuries but two among them succumbed to their

injuries. The martyred jawans of Jammu & Kashmir police were identified as Constables Ishfaq Ayoub and Fayaz Ahmad of IRP 20 Bn. IG Vijay Kumar said, “elaborate security deployment was done on ground zero to ensure incident free Independence day celebrations in the valley”. He said after the terror strike the entire area has been cordoned off to track down the footprints of the terrorists behind the attack. He said, preliminary reports suggested JeM cadre were behind the attack. He maintained, the security personnel also exercised restraint by not opening indiscriminate firing due to the heavy civilian movement in the area. Later in the day, a tribute ceremony was organised at the police headquarters where senior officers including DGP Jammu & Kashmir police paid their tribute and remembered the supreme sacrifices of the jawans of the J&K police. The mortal remains were later shifted to their local residences in Srinagar where thou-

sands of residents paid their last tributes and joined the funeral of policemen. Wailing women and close relatives were seen chanting slogans during the funeral procession of martyred policemen. Interacting with the media persons, DGP Dilbagh Singh said, “it is the handiwork of the Pakistan and its proxies who don’t want to see peace prevailing in the region. He said, the security situation has largely improved in Kashmir valley but in between when such incidents occur our resolve to restore peace gets strengthened. Referring to measures adopted by the security forces ahead of the I-day celebrations, DGP said, drone cameras and camera fitting vehicles have been deployed at various places to ensure complete area domination during the I-Day function. The security forces were also directed to remain in a state of high alert across Jammu & Kashmir to prevent fresh strikes on the security convoys and other vital security installations.

GOLD SMUGGLING

Kerala Protocol

Officer denies about diplomatic baggage

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Sunil Kumar, Kerala State Protocol Officer reportedly told the sleuths of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) probing the gold smuggling racket busted by the Customs department recently that no diplomatic baggage has come to the UAE Consulate at Thiruvananthapuram during the last two years. The statement has put the CPI(M) led LDF Government in Kerala in dilemma as KT Jaleel, the Higher Education Minister has been claiming that he had received Ramzan kits and thousands of copies of Quran sent by the UAE Consulate at Thiruvananthapuram through diplomatic consignment. Kerala BJP president K Surendran had alleged on Thursday that the baggage contained gold bars instead of Quran and the same was transported to different parts of Kerala through the official vehicles of Jaleel, a former leader of the outlawed SIMI. But Jaleel denied all allegations and declared that he was ready to face probe by any agencies including the NIA, CBI or the Enforcement Directorate.

Wildlife lovers appeal Modi to save endangered black bucks

PRADEEP SAXENA ■ ALIGARH

The wild life lovers and NGO of Aligarh have appealed to the Prime Minister of India to save the endangered species of Black bucks of this region. They said that if such steps are not taken by the Government on urgent basis the Black Bucks will become history and be banished from this region. Once this region used to be very rich with the presence of Black deers but on account of the killing of endangered species by rich persons belonging to Aligarh city and so called, Nawabs of the districts now only 357 black deers are believed to be exist in the region. Bankebihari Gupta, president of LATA NGO Said that “Aligarh was very rich with the the presence of Black buck. But due to pouching the life of endangered species are in danger. We have written several letter to District Administration. But Administration have turned a blind eye regarding this evil menace. At last We have appealed to the Prime Minister of India to save the endangered species of Black deers of this

region”. Sources of wild life department of U P Government that some 10 years ago the number of black deers in the district was estimated to be 5347. The black bucks were found in the jungles of villages Sunthla Rahim Kot, Surajpur Jaivana Birpura, Alahdadpur, Gurskien Jarkhera Lohgarh and Saidman under the areas of Atrauli, Kher and Koil Tehsils of the district. It is worth mentioning that this species have their own history as several authors have written about free movements of Black deers in Aligarh district. According to manuscripts on records, Sir Thomas Row a British who visited India in the beginning of 17th Century in the region of Emperor Jahangir had written that black deers and peacocks were seen moving in almost whole of the area of Koil (Aligarh). Similarly another tourist Hawkins has written that in the surrounding of Delhi, Agra and Aligarh (Koil) large number of herds of black bucks were seen, now with the passage of time the number has considerably reduced and few left alone are struggling for their existence.

No two power centres in Maha, CM only leader, Pawar architect of our Govt: Raut

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Contesting the speculation that there are two power centres in Maharashtra, the Shiv Sena said Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray was the only leader who enjoyed all the powers in the MVA Government, while NCP chief Sharad Pawar being an architect of the ruling alliance, he played an important part in it and “we seek his advice”. Participating in a joint interaction programme hosted by Marathi television channel “ABP Majha”, Shiv Sena’s Rajya Sabha member and spokesperson Sanjay Raut dismissed the allegation in certain quarters that the State Government files were being sent to the Yeshwantrao Centre for the NCP chief to look at them. “There are no two power centres in Maharashtra. Chief minister Uddhav Thackeray is the only leader who enjoys all the powers in the state government. No government files to the Yeshwantrao Chavan Centre (for Pawar sahib to look at) as is being claimed in certain quarters. Uddhav sahib has the powers with him,” Raut said. Alluding to Pawar’s role in the Shiv Sena-led Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) in the state, Raut said: “Pawar saheb played a key role in the formation of the MVA government in the State. He has a major role to play in our gov-

ernment. He is the most experienced political leader in the state and has vast administrative experience. No one has as much experience as he has governance matters in the state”. “Hence his guidance is valuable for our government. What is wrong if someone goes to him and seeks advice? And we need the guidance of Pawar sahib,” Raut said. Replying to another question, Raut slammed the Opposition BJP for politicising the Sushant Singh Rajput suicide cases purposely. “In view of the impending Bihar Assembly elections, the Opposition BJP is deriving political mileage out of the Sushant Singh Rajput suicide case”. When his attention was drawn to the NCP chief’s disapproval of his grandnephew Rohit Pawar’s demand for CBI probe into the alleged Sushant Singh Rajput suicide case, Raut said: “You should see the whole episode as a grandfather giving his grand nephew. Even late Bal Thackeray used to rebuke the youngsters when something went wrong. His family members as well all of us used to feel happy. Because, if he got irritated with us, we would think he was keeping a watch on us. Even in Rohit’s case, Pawar did not say whatever he said in an irritating tone. Whatever he said was over that day. Now it has become a family matter”.

Kerala CM, 7 Ministers go into quarantine

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Covid-19 is causing havoc in Kerala as 1,569 new persons were diagnosed positive for the pandemic in the last 24 hours ending Friday 6 pm. The situation in the State is so grave that Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and seven of his Cabinet colleagues have gone under self-quarantine on Friday. The Ministers who have gone under quarantine include K K Shylaja, Health Minister. Ten persons succumbed to Covid 19 on Friday while 1,354 out of the new 1,569 cases contracted the pandemic through social transmission. 86 patients who tested positive on Friday failed to pinpoint the source from where they contracted the pandemic. Interestingly, Shylaja had said in a release on Thursday that Kerala is likely to see the number of Covid-19 cases going up to 10,000 to 20,000 per day in the coming weeks and the number of casualties too would go up along with it. Loknath Behera, State Police Chief too went under quarantine on Friday as he had accompanied the Chief Minister in the latter’s trip to Kozhikode and Munnar recently. The responsibility of Covid-19 management has been given to the Police Department by the Chief Minister on Wednesday as all measures to fight and control the pandemic has come a cropper in the State. The SP of Malappuram too went under self quarantine as the district collector too was tested positive on Friday.

Sunil Kumar reportedly told the NIA officials that he does not have any information about the Ramzan kits addressed to Jaleel’s office from the UAE Consulate in the capital city. The NIA sleuths has asked Sunil Kumar to furnish the details of the diplomatic consignments received by the State Government Departments from the UAE Consulates and all other foreign missions operating in the country. All materials addressed to the State Government officials from diplomatic missions in the country are received by the State Protocol Officer before handing it over to the concerned departments. Sunil Kumar’s explanation to the NIA has come hours before the Kerala BJP president Surendran alleged that Shine Haq, the former State Protocol Officer was hand in glove with those involved in gold smuggling. “Though Haq was transferred out of the Protocol Office, he managed to get back to the office in a senior position and he continued to meddle with the affairs of the SPO,” Surendran had alleged in a press meet on Thursday at Kozhikode.

MLAs to take feedback from Covid patients

PRADEEP SAXENA ■ ALIGARH

MLAs will now speak to corona patients over phone daily and will take the feedback of health services from them. In case of any problem, they will inform the district administration immediately. On Thursday, Minister of State for Medicine Atul Garg gave this instruction on the complaint of MLA Sanjeev Raja during inspection of Corona Control Room. During the inspection of the control room, Atul Garg inquired about the number of corona patients, the number of hospitals, the number of patients admitted to them and the number of fleets relative to them. He was somewhere satisfied with the answers of control room incharge Smriti Gautam. At the same time, city MLA Sanjeev Raja, who accompanied him, also had some problems, on the basis of which he directed the administration that a list of covid patients should be given to the MLAs along with their names, addresses and mobile numbers daily. MLAs will seek health services feedback from patients at their level.

Case of assault on MLA-SHO overshadowed on online platform

PRADEEP SAXENA ■ ALIGARH

In Gonda police station, the case of the fight between the BJP MLA Rajkumar Sahayogi of IGLAS and Anuj Saini, the SHO, was overshadowed on social media. In this case, former Chief Ministers Mayawati, Akhilesh Yadav, IPS officer Amitabh Thakur have tweeted and demanded action against the culprits. Former Chief Minister and BSP supremo Mayawati said in her tweet that the law and order in UP is dying. Allegations made by the BJP MLA and the police in Aligarh are very serious, whoever is guilty, action should be taken against them. What is the difference between the SP-BJP government in terms of crime control and law and order? Government should pay proper attention to it. Former Chief Minister and SP National President Akhilesh Yadav has targeted the Yogi government in this matter. He said that this is the condition of the state under BJP rule, BJP’s own legislators are being victims of police beatings.

Don’t know who benefited from Modi’s ₹20L cr Covid package: Maha Cong chief

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Seeking to “expose” the Rs 20 Lakh crore Covid-19 Economic Assistance Package announced by the Modi Government in August last year, the Maharashtra Pradesh Youth Congress (MPYC) President Satyajit Tambe said here on Friday that while “the self-styled Pradhan Sevak” insisted ₹20 lakh crore-worth of assistance was given to farmers, entrepreneurs and the unemployed, he wanted to know who were actually the beneficiaries from the scheme. “The self-styled Pradhan Sevak insists ₹20 lakh crores-worth of assistance was given to farmers, entrepreneurs and the unemployed, but Maharashtra Youth Congress has been hard pressed to find a single individual who it has helped. My only question to the Prime Minister is, Modi ji, who exactly got the ₹ 20 Lakh Crore?” Tambe asked. In a statement issued here, Tambe said: “Our MPYC Bearers and activists have been reaching out to the intended stakeholders of the ₹20 Lakh Crore COVID-19 Relief Package and have not been able to trace

any beneficiaries. Meeting with farmers on the first day of the agitation at the district and taluka level, it was revealed by the video interviews recorded that not a single farmer has received the assistance promised,” Tambe said. “The fact-finding teams also consulted local traders, shops and factories and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, and the unemployed, who also attest on record that the relief sought is still expected three months after it was pledged. The People of Maharashtra have participated wholeheartedly in our poll and their recorded testimonies express the same disillusionment across critical sectors of the economy,” he said. Because of the stark variance between the Prime Minister’s professions and the zero beneficiary reality on the ground, we at Maharashtra Youth Congress continue to apply to the Central Government for a breakdown of the COVID-19 assistance to Maharashtra. BJP’s silence and thuggery is symptomatic of the elite capture and the cronyism that is Modi’s Operandi.

Andhra HC extends status quo on 3 Capitals issue

IANS ■ AMARAVATI

The Andhra Pradesh High Court on Friday extended, till August 27, the status quo on three capital issue. A three-judge bench comprising Justices Rakesh Kumar, A.V. Sesha Sai and M. Satyanarayana Murthy directed the State government to maintain the status quo for two more weeks, rejecting its appeal to vacate the interim order passed on August 4. The court on Friday took up hearing of nearly 55 petitions filed to challenge the Andhra Pradesh Decentralisation and Inclusive Development of All Regions Act, 2020 and the Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA) Repeat Act, 2020. Counsel for the petitioners argued that the three capital move was violation of Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014 as it talks of only one state

capital. Lawyers of some of the petitioners expressed their inability to personally appear before the court due to current Covid-19 situation and pleaded for extending the status quo. The government had on Thursday filed a common counter-affidavit claiming that the related policy decision was within its competence and in consonance with the Central government’s sworn statement on the matter. The government contended that its decision was not arbitrary, but was taken on the basis of various studies conducted by experts, and that it had the obligation under Article 38 of the Constitution to ensure that there were no inequalities among the people in different areas. The court had ordered the status quo on August 4 as the petitioners feared that the gov-

ernment might start shifting offices to Visakhapatnam and Kurnool by taking advantage of the Bills getting the Governor’s assent. Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan on July 31 approved the two Bills and the same day, the government issued the gazette notification. Under Andhra Pradesh Decentralisation and Inclusive Development of All Regions Bill 2020, the government seeks to shift key capital functions out of Amaravati. It proposes to develop Visakhapatnam as the executive capital. With the shifting of the offices of the Chief Minister, the Governor, ministers and secretaries, the coastal city for all practical purposes will become the seat of power. Kurnool will be developed as the judicial capital by shifting the High Court there. Amaravati, which was orig-

inally planned as the only state capital and a world-class city, will only be a legislative capital. The moved by Jagan Mohan Reddy-led government has led to fresh protests by farmers in 29 villages in Amaravati. About 24,000 farmer families had given 33,000 acres of land for development of Amaravati under land pooling scheme five years ago. Then Telugu Desam Party (TDP) government headed by Chandrababu Naidu had embarked on the mega plans to build Amaravati on the banks of Krishna river as the dream capital and a world-class city. Naidu had got its design was prepared by Singapore government. Several farmers had already challenged the three capitals move. They also filed petitions challenging the two Bills approved by the Governor.

Lord Muruga, Lord Vinayaka to unite Tamil Nadu Hindus

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Lord Muruga and Lord Vinayaka are playing a major role in uniting the Hindus in Tamil Nadu who have been divided along caste lines. Hindus all over the State had come out protesting against the humiliation meted out to Lord Muruga by Karuppu Koottam (the Black Alliance), a frontal organisation under the auspices of the Dravidian outfits. A YouTube channel under Karuppu koottam had aired an obscene song as a parody to the Skanda Shashti Kavacham, an iconic hymn of Muruga devotees all over the world and which was immortalized by Soolamangalam Sisters, the famous devotional song proponents. The Tamil Nadadu Government was forced to arrest the Karuppu Koottam manage-

ment only after State-wide protests by the devotees which included the mass Skanda Shasti Kavacham recitation and worshipping idols of Lord Muruga. On Wednesday, Tamil Nadu Government ordered the ban of Vinayaka Chathurthi processions and festivities citing the Covid-19 situation in the State. Hell has broken loose all over the State with Hindu organisations including the BJP coming out in protest against the government order banning the processions and festivities. Vinayaka Chathurthi processions in Tamil Nadu have been a major concern for the Government as well as the law and order enforcement agencies as Muslims strongly object to the carrying of Vinayaka idols along the main thoroughfares and highways across the State as part of the immersion ceremony.

Goa housing societies stigmatising patients, warned

IANS ■ PANAJI

Goa Health Minister Vishwajit Rane on Friday warned of a Crackdown on housing societies and colonies discriminating against asymptomatic Covid-19 patients who have opted for home isolation. Rane said that his Ministry has been receiving complaints about various housing societies and other residential complexes stigmatising asymptomatic Covid-19 patients, including restricting supply of food to those in home isolation. “You cannot stigmatise patients who are opting for home isolation, otherwise government will come down heavily and take action against these housing societies and colonies. I have received complaints that committees are not allowing access to those who are in home isolation in different societies,” Rane said. “Supply of food is being stopped at the gates, as a result it is creating problems for patients who are asymptomatic and under monitoring of the Indian Medical Association and Health services. These people should not be stigmatised,” Rane said. The Health Minister said that Covid-19 could affect anyone. “Covid does not recognise caste, status is society. Anybody can become Covid positive. There should not be any kind of stigmatisation. Home isolation decision has to be respected. No society or colony can take these decisions on its own,” Rane said.

Kadha’ stalls, another start-up in corona times

IANS ■ LUCKNOW

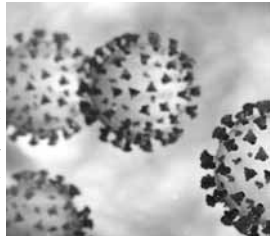
With a cure for coronavirus still not known, more and more people are turning to Ayurvedic ‘Kadha’ prescriptions to keep the virus at bay. In a new start-up, kiosks selling Kadhas have sprung in at several places, especially those frequented by morning walkers. “We used to sell juices of bottle gourd, bitter gourd here, but now we have added Kadha and the majority of our customers prefer a glass of this Ayurvedic concoction,” said Ramesh Sharma who sets up a stall near a park in Indira Nagar locality every morning. Ramesh claims that his wife and mother prepare the Kadha by boiling various species, including cardamom, ginger, nutmeg, peppercorns, basil leaves, cinnamon, honey and turmeric. However, he admitted that he was not aware of the quantity of spices that should go into the making of the decoction. He sells a small glass of the concoction for Rs 40 and many customers even get it packed for home. Swadesh Sharma, a septuagenarian, said, “I drink one cup and take home three cups. My wife and I drink this Kadha twice a day.” Ravindra Kumar, another morn-

ing walker and a regular Kadha customer, said that preparing the decoction at home was a cumbersome task. “My wife and I go to work and we barely get time to cook a meal. Preparing the Kadha takes a lot of time so we drink a cup here,” he said. Almost all the morning walkers who flock to the Kadha stalls, said that they had learnt about the benefits of this from TV and newspapers. Apart from this, packets of ready-to-brew Kadha are now available in the market. “This is in a powder form and you simply have to boil it in water. The spices are in measured quantities and there is no need to even strain the decoction,” said Mohan Lal, who sells packets of the Kadha powder in his grocery store in Mahanagar area. Meanwhile, doctor Raj Kumar, a medical practitioner, said that over-consumption of Kadha was proving harmful for many. “Excessive use of spices like nutmeg, cinnamon in this weather can lead to other problems. People are going overboard in drinking Kadha because they believe that this will keep corona away, but the side effects are now showing up,” he explained.

1,087 new cases take Gujarat’s tally to 76,569

Gandhinagar:

Gujarat on Friday reported 1,087 new Covid-19 case, taking the State’s total tally to 76,569, while 15 new fatalities pushed the death toll to 2,748, health officials said. As many as 1,083 patients were discharged in the last 24 hours, taking the total number of recoveries to 59,522. Hotspot Surat continued to lead the state’s tally with 232 cases, followed by Ahmedabad (161), Vadodara (107), Rajkot (99), Jamnagar (56), Panchmahals (40), Junagadh (39), Gandhinagar (36), Bhavnagar Gir-Somnath and Mahesana (24 each), Bharuch and Dahod with (23 each), Kutch (22), Morbi (21), Banaskantha (15), Patan and Surendranagar (13 each), Anand (12), Navsari (10), Valsad (9), Sabarkantha (8), Kheda and Narmada (7 each), Botad and Chhota Udepur (6 each), Tapi (5), Mahisagar and Porbandar (4 each), and Aravalli and Devbhumi Dwarka (3 each). Gujarat’s mortality rate has come down to 3.58 per cent, but it is still one of the highest in the country. Till now the health authorities have conducted 12,11,047 RT-PCR tests in Gujarat, out of which 11,34,478 have returned negative. There are 14,299 active cases in the state at present, out of which the condition of 14,228 is stable, while 71 critical patients are still on ventilator support. Right now, there are over 4.9 lakh people quarantined in the state, out of which 4,92,647 are under home quarantine and 989 in government facilities. **IANS**



India at 74

The pandemic has given us our transformative moment. Probably to remind us of forgotten ideals that make up our civilisational DNA



On September 5, 2019, 74-year-old Erramatti Mangayamma gave birth to twin girls in Guntur, Andhra Pradesh, becoming the world's oldest mother after being called "barren" her whole life. At 74, Ferdinand Marie de Lesseps made an attempt to construct the Suez Canal. And at 77, John Glenn became the oldest person to go into space. The point of citing these inspirational figures, who were really ordinary men and women till they were challenged, is that no time is too early or too late enough to make a new beginning. And at 74, with perhaps one of the most unimaginable crises in our nation's history — the relentless pandem-

ic, the sliding economy, the collapse of democratic institutions, the chaos of sectarian politics and a conflict-ridden society — India is perhaps at that turning point in its timeline to correct its course and claim a new destiny. Perhaps this churning is necessary to prepare ourselves for a new century instead of relying on templates that we thought were transformative but are now past their prime. Had it not been for the pandemic and the crushing burden it imposed on our social and economic infrastructure, we wouldn't have bothered to look at rebuilding them. There's nothing wrong with globalisation except that when there is resource scarcity in every nation, as a pandemic-induced shutdown snapped mutual dependencies, we ought to be self-sufficient. The massive push to self-produce through *Atmanirbhar Bharat*, decentralising the agricultural economy and empowering rural India may not show results in the short-term. But at least the steps for the next big leap have been laid. China transformed itself in its lowest phase and became the world's largest producer. As a consumption-driven society, we are battling low demand and investment, but given the accelerators and enablers in economic packages, revival is possible. Graded targets for manufacturing at home, incentivisation and hand-holding through the initial breakthrough stage, standardisation of quality through technical partnerships with global expertise, developing economies of scale and allowing competition only to build better and robust home brands will get us there. Not insularity, but letting the trade winds blow so that we can make our mark on shop shelves around the world beyond the boutique handicrafts or tea. If we can be the world's largest producer of vaccines, we can be the factory floor for other products as well. Statistics speak for themselves. Most global chains and majors have, so far, not robbed domestic brands of their dedicated market but have had to indigenise their product lines instead. Pre-pandemic, India emerged as one of the fastest-growing major economies and post-recovery is projected to become one of the top three biggest economies in about a decade. And if the deep penetration of our digital economy is any indication, then that would be our competitive edge. These are also the days when India has awakened to its potential in the knowledge economy. Taking the COVID-19 management module as an example, just in a four-month period, we have developed our own test kits, exported drugs, ventilators and PPE kits, worked on our own vaccine and built multi-bed treatment facilities through both public spending and private partnerships. Imagine, what an increased health spending and a ground-up public health policy, especially at the primary and secondary levels, can do to ease medical treatment and not make it another nightmare for a nation battling serious disease burdens. For the first time, research and development (R&D) is being prioritised in the National Education Policy (NEP) with dedicated funding, compared to the last few years when money spent on it has been actually dwindling. The NEP's switch in emphasis from herd-oriented learning to an absorptive and application-based one should hopefully groom innovative minds and get us creditable research papers and patents, an area where our centres of excellence are still inadequate. So far, ISRO has been the only name that comes to mind when it comes to innovation, what with its missions to the moon and Mars. But science and technology will be the most meaningful when it impacts the life of the common man, still distressed and poor, and given Indian ingenuity, we could lead a solution-oriented talent pool.

Of course, our democracy has weathered many challenges and unfortunately, it faces its toughest survival test yet. It is no longer a culture but a tool. Politics has overtaken its true purpose, the purveyors of power using it to erode representative institutions and using collective angst and distress to arrogate more power to themselves. Policies are being weaponised for partisan purposes than public good. Though the shared crisis of COVID-19 did bring about some kind of cooperative federalism, we must not forget that happened only with an authoritarian sanction. Meanwhile, majoritarianism has become a mainstream virtue and secularism an ill-conceived vice, conformists of mainline discourse are true patriots while a thinking civil society has become an enemy of the State. The executive has become bigger than either the legislature or the judiciary and watchdog institutions like the media are either willing propagandists or ousted rebels. We are more disunited when we should be united as a pluralistic society. Yet the pandemic that has attacked us at a not too friendly age of 74 has brought out the best of human spirit, courage and compassion in everyday life. Probably to remind us of the ideals that make up our civilisational DNA. And, therefore, we are best placed to resurrect them than writing them off.

Sputnik V and safety

Is Russia's vaccine truly effective without community trials or is it the beginning of a new commercial and political race?



Russia claims to have beaten the rest of the world and come out with a vaccine for the Coronavirus named 'Sputnik V.' However, even before it hits the markets, it has become mired in controversy, with several countries, and even traditional friend India, expressing some doubts over its efficacy. What has the experts worried is the pace at which Sputnik V has been produced, leaving behind front-runners like Oxford-AstraZeneca, Moderna and Pfizer. They fear that without large scale community trials, Moscow has cut corners and may have put the lives of those inoculated at risk. The Moscow-based Gamaleya Institute, which is making the vaccine, got lightning speed regulatory approvals less than two months after it got into human trials. Compare this to other vaccine candidates in human trials that are not expected to be ready before early next year. However, Russia has claimed that such fast approvals were possible because Sputnik V resembles a vaccine for the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome that had already been tested greatly. This isn't the only controversy surrounding Russia and its bid to win the vaccine race. In July, it was accused of trying to steal vaccine research by the UK's National Cyber Security Centre. But the fact of the matter is that despite all the concerns of health and security experts, Moscow has got orders for one billion doses already from countries desperate to eradicate the pandemic. And even as Russia claims that India is one of the 20 nations to place an order, New Delhi has set up an expert committee headed by NITI Aayog member VK Paul to "consider the logistics and ethical aspects of procuring and administering the COVID-19 vaccine." The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) can ask Russia to conduct late-phase human trials, usually both phase-2 and phase-3, on an Indian population. This is the usual requirement for all vaccines developed outside India.

But there are overlap issues. As over 50 per cent of vaccines are currently manufactured in India, the Pune-based Serum Institute of India has already tied up with other developers. Then, there is the issue of availability and competition with India's own vaccine. According to the Russian Register of Pharmaceuticals website, the vaccine would be in circulation from January 2021 but the Indian vaccine is expected to hit the market before that. So, how the Centre will balance out the country's need for a Corona vaccine with the commercial interests of Indian firms producing it remains to be seen.

opinion

Pledge of independence

On our 74th Independence Day, we have perhaps forgotten that India's strength lies in unity and not conformity. We need to renew our vows



AJOY KUMAR

On August 15, 1947, India and its citizens gained independence with the British rule coming to an end. Loudly and proudly, we pronounced to the world that we, too, were ready to step out from the darkness of colonial rule to a new dawn, ripe with uncertainty but also hope. It is this hope that former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru so eloquently captured in his address to the nation on the eve of India's independence. He opened his speech with, "Long years ago, we made a tryst with destiny..." His immortal words still send a chill down my spine. But too often, we focus only on the first few words. If we read his speech further, Nehruji talked about a pledge that we have renewed by obtaining freedom. A pledge "of dedication to the service of India and her people and to the still larger cause of humanity."

Few exemplified this pledge and dedication to the service of India more than Mohd Usman, also known as *Naushera ka sher* (the Lion of Naushera). At the time of India's independence, Mohd Usman was offered a high position in the Pakistani Army but he refused to join. Instead, he chose to help build a "new India" that had awakened on the fateful night of August 15. Usman bravely defended Naushera, causing a heavy toll on the Pakistani side but was martyred in July 1948 while fighting for his motherland. He was posthumously awarded the Maha Vir Chakra but more importantly, he remained a shining symbol of hope for a secular India. On his death, Khwaja Ahmad Abbas wrote, "...a precious life of imagination and unswerving patriotism has fallen a victim to communal fanaticism. Brigadier Usman's brave example will be an abiding source of inspiration for free India."

Such an example was necessary at a time when tension, fear and suspicion were writ large owing to the spectre of Partition. Not only did Usman dedicate his life to the service of India but also his death. Just as significant and poetic is the fact that six months before Usman was killed in a battle, another famous son of India, Jadunath Singh Rathore, who was under Usman's command, protected a nine-man forward section post, displaying unmatched brav-



WE ARE CURRENTLY LIVING IN TIMES WHERE DIFFERENT SECTIONS OF SOCIETY ARE ASKED TO PROVE THEIR NATIONALITY. PROVING ONE'S NATIONALITY HAS BEEN REDUCED TO THE IDEA OF BEING SUBSERVIENT TO A RULING CLASS AND NOT CREATING TOO MUCH NOISE. THIS TEST IS NOT LIMITED TO INDIVIDUALS OF DIFFERENT FAITHS OR CASTES. IT IS FOR EVERYONE WHO DISAGREES WITH THE GOVT

ery against thousands of enemy forces. His bravery led to him being posthumously awarded the second-ever Param Vir Chakra. This sacrifice by two of India's brave sons — both were from different faiths but laid down their lives for the Indian dream — in all likelihood terrorised Pakistan more than any weapon could and still does.

So where does India stand today? Seventy two years after the death of these bravehearts, it seems that the fear and suspicion, that loomed large then, looms larger now. We are currently living in times where different sections of society are asked to prove their nationality. Proving one's nationality has been reduced to the idea of being subservient to a ruling class and not creating too much noise. This test is not limited to individuals of different faiths or people who come from different castes; it applies to anyone who does not agree with the view of the Government in power.

There are a number of instances where dissent against the Government and its actions are not only treated with the reckless exercise of power but also through an indiscriminate attack on the individual's patriotism. There are numerous examples that are in the public domain but one does not

even need to go that far. The author himself has been subjected to vile abuse and was branded "un-Indian" merely because he had written/spoken in favour of what he believed was right for the beloved country. This despite the fact that he served as a public servant and was awarded a medal for bravery by the Government itself. I can only imagine how an everyday citizen is treated when he/she dares to dissent.

A part of the reason why we are in this unfortunate position is that we have forgotten that India's strength lies in unity and not conformity. We are steadily moving towards a time where dissent in a non-violent form and the free flow of ideas is stymied by authoritarian force or by the loudest voice. We have forgotten that our enemies as Indians are not our countrymen, who may follow different faiths or eat different foods, but illiteracy, hunger and corruption.

In his speech, Nehru recognised this when he said, "The service of India means the service of the millions who suffer. It means the ending of poverty and ignorance and disease and inequality of opportunity." His words hold just as true today as it did then. True service to India is not fighting wars that our political masters or news channels manipulate

us into. Instead, it is the fight against poverty, illiteracy and disease that plague millions of Indians.

This is one of the main reasons why I am proud of the work done by the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP). The party's goal is to remain true to the nationalistic spirit through its work. This is why the Delhi model of governance has received such widespread credit in areas of health, education and transparency. All of this has been achieved by people of all faiths, gender and caste. By treating service to one another as the truest form of patriotism, we are united by purpose and enriched by our non-conformity.

Therefore, as we celebrate the 74th independence day, I would like to urge the citizens to remember the sacrifices of Usman and Jadunath Singh Rathore, who were killed before they could get a chance to see their beloved country turn two and laid down their lives for the Indian dream. A dream where people, divided for centuries by a foreign ruler, could find common meaning and purpose by pledging to live in service to one another and, therefore, in service to the country. A pledge renewed in 1947 demands renewal even more so in 2020.

(The writer is a former IPS officer, a former MP and currently a member of the AAP)

SOUNDBITE

Having completed all talks, we have come to the Assembly today. It may rain fire at this frontline, but we all and I will be the shield, club and spear and will protect.



Congress leader —Sachin Pilot

Unless you are a good actor, you won't survive. As far as the disparity is concerned, it is tougher for outsiders. Star kids have access to information that we don't.



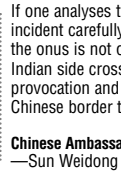
Actor —Vikrant Massey

The world will be laughing and taking full advantage of the United States if Joe Biden ever became President. Our country would collapse.



US President —Donald Trump

If one analyses this (Galwan) incident carefully, it's clear that the onus is not on China. The Indian side crossed the LAC for provocation and attacked the Chinese border troops.



Chinese Ambassador to India —Sun Weidong

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Manage distribution

Sir — An expert group on COVID-19 vaccine administration has advised against States procuring the Russian vaccine. The directive has reportedly come in response to some States showing keen interest in getting the consignment to arrest the pandemic. Any procurement has to be done centrally, so that supplies can be allocated to States in proportion to their needs. Without a data-driven and honest assessment, this could set off needless politicking.

In the case of lockdowns, too, a uniform policy should have been adopted for all States to follow. Had every State followed the same guidelines, the detection of cases and deaths in all the States in terms of percentage would have been more or less the same.

KV Seetharamaiah
Hassan

Diminishing popularity

Sir — Politics is a different ball game altogether. For three years, US President Donald Trump

Race to the White House

In the run-up to the November elections, US President Donald Trump is relentlessly whipping up anti-immigrant sentiments. On the other hand, Democratic candidate Joe Biden's choice of Kamala Harris as his vice-presidential mate is a reminder to the incumbent that immigrants cannot be wished away. Though Kamala is part-Indian, part-Jamaican, she is an absolute American, committed to her country and its people. From being San Francisco's District Attorney twice, to being elected California's Attorney General for two terms and being Senator from California since 2017 to finally being a vice-presidential prospect, she has achieved many firsts as a woman of African and Asian pedigree. Irrespective of whether 77-year-old Biden wins or loses, 55-year-old Kamala is the heir apparent for the Democratic party which may be as early as 2024. Her rise is thought-provoking for us not only because of her Indian roots but also because she boycotted the "Howdy-Modi" event in Texas last year. Her views on Article 370 and CAA among others shall put the Government on the backfoot. Here, Biden and the Democratic party's views are no different. The party, perceived to be under the Leftists' and Progressives' control, occasionally indulges in India-bashing and is also seen to be soft on China, unlike Trump. Unless



it tweaks its stance, a Democratic victory would have a significant bearing on both the Indo-US and Indo-China relationships.

Black voters in the US, courtesy the George Floyd saga, are already polarised against Trump. Kamala's entry will lead to a further hardening of stance. Though Indian Americans traditionally vote for Democrats, yet a shift is happening towards Republicans. The 2.3 million Indian voters can tilt the results either way. How the two political parties, going forward, charm them will be a matter of strategy and shall have long term echoes on who stays on top of the pecking order in the geopolitical space.

SK Prabhakar
Gurugram

House for the moment and she is likely to be a trumpcard in a close contest. She is expected to wean away the Black votes and the Indian diaspora in a bid to trounce Trump.

CK Subramaniam
Via email

Temporary relief

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Will the truce hold?" (August 14). It is no secret that the coup in Rajasthan was orchestrated by the BJP. It was just waiting to destabilise the Government. But Sachin Pilot's revolt fizzled out as the Congress took an unusually tough stand. By now Pilot would have also realised the selfishness of the saffron party, who tried to use him as a pawn and played its cards very carefully. As for the Congress, it is time it nominates a president, who can lead the party and act as a bulwark against a rampaging BJP. Most importantly, accommodate the young Turks.

Tharci S Fernando
Chennai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

\$5 trillion GDP a distant dream

By all calculations, the COVID-19 impact has pushed India's \$5 trillion goal back by three years



SWAPNIL SONI

The Prime Minister has laid down a visionary target of making India a \$5 trillion economy by 2024-25. This has stimulated debate and discussion among economists and policymakers to seek roadmaps to attain this optimistic economic goal. This discussion garners more significance given the current domestic and global economic slowdown coupled with domestic price instability, the US-China trade war and the current pandemic. Amid such global and domestic challenges, two questions arise: Will India become a \$5 trillion economy? What should be done to help Indian attain its goal?

It is necessary to empirically diagnose India's growth pattern to meet the objective of a \$5 trillion Gross Domestic Product (GDP) from the current level of \$2.9 trillion. The latest estimate of the GDP for 2019-20 and the exchange rate of ₹70.39 per dollar (average exchange rate of 2019-20) yield a \$2.9 trillion GDP that has to touch \$5 in five years. This implies exchange rate adjusted Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of about 13.5 per cent, which is close to the Niti Aayog's projection of 11.5 per cent. However, the \$5 trillion GDP target was originally set during the pre-COVID-19 scenario, which has now made this target impossible to achieve owing to the disastrous consequences of the lockdown on the economy.

Amid the macroeconomic shocks and uncertainties, many national and global institutions and rating agencies have been releasing a revised GDP growth forecast for 2020-21. S&P and Fitch Solutions have projected India's GDP growth rate for 2020-21 as -5 per cent. The World Bank maintained a -3.2 per cent growth outlook. In contrast, Moody's Investors Services and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) posited non-negative growth numbers of zero per cent and two per cent for the current financial year (FY). On May 22, the RBI postulated the GDP growth in the negative territory. It further released a projection of -1.5 per cent growth for 2020-21 in its *Survey of Professional Forecasters* report in June. However, most projections predict above eight per cent growth outlook in the FY 2021-22, owing to the fiscal and monetary stimulus and reforms announced by the Government accompanied by the unravelling of the pent-up aggregate demand in the economy.

However, incorporating the adversity in GDP growth, due to the pandemic, it is best to consider a GDP growth rate of nearly -3.2 per cent for 2020-21 relying on the World Bank's estimate and the RBI's negative territory forecast. This growth number, while being conservative, hovers around the other negative estimates and thus is a tenable representative of all the growth projections made by various multilateral institutions and agencies. It is inevitable that subdued growth for the initial year (2020-21) of the \$5 trillion target trajectory will either devolve the growth pressure to subsequent years or push the target year to a later period.

Realistic estimation for the post-COVID-19 period i.e., from 2021-22 to 2024-25, yields a CAGR of 18.1 per cent, incorporating a -3.2 per cent GDP growth for 2020-21. This estimate indicates that the Indian economy has to grow at an annual rate of 18.1 per cent to attain a GDP target of \$5 trillion by 2024-25, which looks more surreal than real. Plus, each one per cent decrease in the growth rate for the current year yields an additional burden of 0.3 per cent in the CAGR for the subsequent years of the growth trajectory. Given the unrealistic-looking projected growth rate of 18.1 per cent, one needs to look at the alternative to attain the \$5 trillion target which is, naturally, a postponement of the target year.

In the post-COVID-19 period, the economy is expected to recover and revive as argued by multilateral institutions, rating agencies and economists. In fact, economists have even gone ahead and contemplated that the Indian market will emerge stronger than ever post-COVID-19, given the liquidity support and future demand. This revival is attributable to stimulus and reforms announced by the Government for all the productive sectors. However, the effectiveness of these stimuli and reforms would depend on their implementation and thus remains debatable. If not a big bang, a green shoot is expected to knock on the door of the economy in the next FY, replicating a V-shaped recovery to some extent.

Given this, from 2021-22, the economy's productive sectors, i.e. agriculture, industry and services, will follow their respective historical growth trajectories. Thus, it is expected that these productive sectors, post-COVID-19, will grow at the historical average of the previous five years of about 7.5 per cent, 9.0 per cent and 11.4 per cent, respectively. This looks more realistic and acceptable than the 18.1 per cent annual growth rate, derived and discussed earlier. This consideration and associated analysis revealed that the Indian economy will attain only \$3.8 trillion by 2024-25 and reach the \$5 trillion target by 2027-28 with a CAGR of 9.97 per cent. This implies that the COVID-19 impact has pushed India's \$5 trillion dream back by three years.

The ambitious \$5 trillion economic objective intends to provide a stimulus to the economy while raising many pragmatic challenges to achieve it. This objective can be achieved by providing an appropriate fillip to the growth of agriculture, industry and services sectors that are drivers of the Indian economy. However, a data-driven approach reveals that the growth attained by the present GDP patterns is far from the target required to attain the \$5 trillion objective. However, it is possible to attain this target by 2027-28 when there is a recovery in the economy during the post-COVID-19 period coupled with a consistent growth in productive sectors over the years.

Historically, the services and industry sectors show a high correlation with the overall GDP growth rate but they need consistent stimulus for growth. In fact, the productive sectors collectively can deliver viable growth rates that may put the Indian economy into the \$5 trillion club by 2027-28.

Any moderate shock to one sector may be absorbed by the other sector, but a major shock cannot be tackled and can derail the \$5 trillion growth trajectory. Thus, policymakers must focus on all the three sectors equally without focussing on any particular one. Along with the individual growth of a sector, its dynamics with other sectors and its contribution to the economy are evenly important. This could be achieved by attracting Foreign Direct Investment and strengthening the Regional Innovation Systems to encourage local firms to network, innovate and globalise.

(The writer is Senior Research Scholar, Department of Management Studies, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore)

POINTCOUNTERPOINT

I HAVE THE GREAT HONOUR TO ANNOUNCE THAT I'VE PICKED KAMALA HARRIS, A FEARLESS FIGHTER FOR THE LITTLE GUY AS MY RUNNING MATE FOR THE ELECTIONS.

—FORMER US VICE-PRESIDENT
JOE BIDEN



SHE (KAMALA HARRIS) IS THE MEANEST, THE MOST HORRIBLE, THE MOST DISRESPECTFUL OF ANYBODY IN THE US SENATE.

—US PRESIDENT
DONALD TRUMP

Shun vitriolic leaders

The community should be represented by some liberally-balanced Muslims who know history and at the same time are rooted in their faith. Or else we could be stranded in a wasteland



FIROZ BAKHT AHMED

A lot of water has flowed under the bridge since 1947. The 200 million plus population of Indian Muslims was the one, that at the call of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad from the steps of old Delhi's Jama Masjid, put down its luggage meant for the next Lahore train from the Old Delhi Railway Station. In all probability, theirs was the right decision, in spite of the fact that many of their relatives had decided to leave for their El Dorado — the newly created Pakistan. Even today most of the Indian Muslims living in Old Delhi have their relatives in the country across the border. Religious frenzy has never augured well for any community in India and the world. In the words of eminent Muslim thinker, AG Noorani, the "two-nation theory" was, in effect, an offshoot of the constant friction and confrontation stirred up between the two communities and it was under exceptional circumstances that Jinnah's concept gained popularity among the Muslims. Indeed, the whole country responded to the "two-nation theory." The greatest religion for both communities became Hindu-Muslim hatred. This mephitic form of politics saw its culmination in 1947 when a wall of hatred rose between the two communities.

Partition horrors: Elders would describe the gory sight of trains full of mauled, murdered, mutilated and dead Hindus chugging into the stations from Pakistan and similar trains from India, full of dead and mutilated Muslims pulling into Pakistan. These were called "blood trains" and all too often they crossed the border in funeral silence. Huts, houses, bungalows and mansions were burnt and robbed on both sides. Women were raped and murdered, children were killed in front of their parents, some women on both sides of the border jumped into wells and rivers while men also killed their wives and daughters to save them from dishonour.

Jinnah and Nehru both responsible: Jinnah on the Muslim front and Nehru in opposition to Jinnah, both barristers full of intellectual rivalry to be one up against the other, instead of preserving the sovereignty of India, started dreaming of being the new kings of the nascent kingdoms. Azad was blatantly ignored and sidelined by the Congress because he considered both Nehru and Jinnah as the main villains of the vivisection. He could read well into Nehru's flagrant opportunism and ambition to be the first Prime Minister of the new nation.

Azad was quite aggravated about the Partition and had accused Nehru of being lured into the Partition by Lady Edwina Mountbatten. Even in the play *Maulana Azad*, by noted playwright and scriptwriter, Dr Saeed Alam, Tom Alter, playing the protagonist, was heard stating in chaste Urdu, "*Log kehthey hain, aur theek hi kehthey hongee, ke Jawahar Lal ko batwaare pe raazi karney mein us charming lady ka bahut bada haath tha.*" (People say, and they must be right, that the charming lady played a big role in getting Jawahar Lal to accept the Partition.) Today's Muslim leadership, bereft of thinkers like Maulana Azad and Dr Zakir Hussain, has lost both its voice and utility. During every election, it has been seen that all leaders are power-brokers indulging in pernicious vote-bank manipulation, acquiring State patronage themselves and leaving ordinary Muslims to the mercy of God.

Muslims misled: Despite that, Muslims won't fully trust Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who had declared in a meeting with eminent clerics and intellectuals at his residence on June 6, 2015, that he wanted to see in each Muslim's hands the holy *Quran* and a computer. When Home Minister Amit Shah said, "Muslims are like our children. We want to treat

“ IT IS TIME THAT MUSLIMS REALISE THAT THE RSS IS A REALITY AND MODI IS A PRIME MINISTER WHO HAS PLEDGED 'SABKA SATH, SABKA VIKAS, SABKA VISHWAS' (COMPASSION FOR ALL, PROGRESS FOR ALL, TRUST FOR ALL). IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MUSLIMS TO HOLD HIM TO ACCOUNT AND ENSURE THAT HE REMAINS COMMITTED TO INDIA'S PLURALISTIC LEITMOTIF ”



them equally on a par with others", hardly any member of the community hailed it. This opposing mindset is creating a major problem in better integration with the mainstream. Battered by the populist rhetoric and provocative militancy of its myopic ill-educated clerics and shallow youth, the nation's cultured and high potential minority stands at the crossroads. Owing to their obscurantist approach, they are leading the community back to the dark ages of ignorance, like the ones in Arab countries before the advent of Islam. More often than not, they are interested in feathering their own nests and are indulging in petty-mindedness characterised by an extremely narrow and irresponsible outlook completely out of tune with the existing reality. Such leaders are not seriously interested in dealing with the main problems of the community. Muslim leaders and petty politicians are becoming richer day-by-day while the people they represent are languishing in ghettos.

In this ghettoised situation emerged the churlish political middlemen as inter-locutors for communities, picking on sensational issues that would only apparently tighten their stranglehold on the gullible and divert attention from the real bread and butter and educational issues. Shah Bano, Jamia Millia, the AMU's minority character, Taslima Nasreen, Salman Rushdie and so on became issues. However, none of them had any bearing on the real problems of the Muslims. Educational backwardness, women's education, social stagnation, communalisation of the police force and absence from the mainstream were never addressed by the self-appointed interlocutors with the same emphasis as the Babri Masjid issue. It is thanks mainly to this leadership that Muslims remain stranded in a wasteland of missed opportunities even 73 years after Independence.

Muslims' ghetto mindset, the main problem: Indian Muslims, who now call themselves "Muslim Indians" deliberately, do agree that Pakistan today has

become hell on Earth. Yet they fail to thank their God and stars that they are far better in India as compared to those in Pakistan in terms of safety and security of life. My Karachi-based cousin has told me that after dusk, all city roads become deserted. I have a few questions to ask my Indian co-religionists. How is it going to benefit them when they abuse the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), the BJP and Modi? Will constantly howling for reservations based on religion not discredit it them?

Why do the so-called intellectuals and clerics instead of coolly convincing, heckle opponents in TV debates? All this has created a negative perception of Muslims in the country. My concern is that if these questions are not satisfactorily answered, relations between Hindus and Muslims will worsen. So far at least the answers that have come from educated Muslims have been deeply unsatisfactory or incomplete. The community should be represented by some liberally-balanced Muslims, who know history and at the same time are rooted in their faith.

However, the situation with the ghetto to mindset of the Muslim community today is rather grim as they remain critical of the system in general and try to run a parallel governance via the AIMPLB (All-India Muslim Personal Law Board), the *Sharia* courts and the so-called rabble-rousing leaders like the Owaisi brothers, Azam Khan and a horde of perennial apologists seen in TV debates. Rather than serving the community and the nation, their vitriolic remarks create a perception of the community that all the Muslims are similar, which is not true. As per my assessment, more than 50 per cent Indian Muslims are with a progressive idea of India. However, they are tight-lipped and don't want to come out openly in support of the present Government for fear of being socially boycotted or stigmatised as RSS stooges and BJP sycophants.

Prophet's teachings forgotten: The problem with today's Muslims is that they

don't follow the teachings of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) in letter and spirit. This actually distances them from Islam as well, because, Islam possesses sufficient elasticity to enable it to adapt itself to the social and political revolution going on around it. The Mohammedan Common Law (today AIMPLB), or *Shariah*, is by no means unchangeable or unalterable. A practical example of it is the ban of triple *talaq*, a part of *Sharia* but not mentioned in the holy *Quran* and absolutely abhorred by the Prophet. The only law unalterable in Islam is essentially the *Quran* and the traditions of the Prophet. The team of Modi, Shah and Ravi Shankar Prasad, the Law Minister, have banned the draconian *Sharia* law besides settling the eons old *mandir-masjid* imbroglio.

But across India, despite the many problems, the community is forging ahead. Large numbers are doing exceedingly well. The 1992 Babri mosque razing led to major churning. The dominant consensus was that it was important to concentrate on education. That process continues. On November 9, 2019, the issue got amicably settled and none of the Muslims, except the AIMPLB or Owaisi brothers, protested.

Light at the end of the tunnel: More and more Muslim women, even in smaller towns, are acquiring an education. Although a Muslim political party has come up in Assam, another one in Telangana and two have been formed in Uttar Pradesh, most Muslims swear by secular national parties. It is time that Muslims realise that the RSS is a reality and Modi is a Prime Minister who has pledged "*Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas* (Compassion for all, Progress for all, Trust for all)." It is the responsibility of Muslims to hold him to account and ensure that he remains committed to India's pluralistic leitmotif.

(The author is the chancellor of Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad and the grandnephew of Bharat Ratna Maulana Azad)

MSMEs need help to keep afloat

Invest in a mechanism to strengthen the longevity muscle of MSMEs as that would help break barriers and capture global markets



DIPANKER MUKHERJEE

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) are the flavour of the season. Promoting inclusive growth by providing employment opportunities in rural areas to women and people belonging to marginalised sections of society, they are the new engines of India's growth story.

Contributing about 29 per cent to India's GDP, the vision is to increase this contribution to about 50 per cent. Collectively employing over 120 million people, second only to the mammoth agriculture sector, the MSME sector contributes over 45 per cent to India's overall exports.

A net gain is also reduction of regional imbalances and a more equitable distribution of national income and

wealth. MSMEs by design have high flexibility and strong ties to customers and suppliers.

The focus on customer needs, detailed knowledge and experience is many times difficult to replicate. Low overheads often aid lower fluctuations in their business cycle. With a very positive climate in the thinking on MSMEs, where policy, polity and production seem to have come together in fitting measure, all seems to be well in this rapidly upcoming 63 million-sector. It is primed to help move the economy towards the \$5 trillion mark.

Some chinks below the surface, however, need attention and merit early correction. The MSME sector operates primarily on a cash basis and has less access to formal sources of credit. The financial stress of operation, which has been curtailed due to the lockdown and the continuing overhead expenses, however small, has created a burden on many of these companies, which are struggling and are on the brink of shutting down or have already shut down.

With the overall slowdown in the economy and the prospect of a tepid

growth in future demand, this sector will be hard hit. For the MSME sector not to become a "me too" sector, asking for complete Government support and the Government in turn nudging the unwilling banking sector to provide credit in a high default risk scenario, the options available are seemingly limited. An enhanced working capital limit and guarantee on loans to small businesses seem to be the way ahead.

The biggest need for working capital — MSME bank loans — is contested by the banks. Processes are lengthy and loan queues are long. The MSMEs can't get loans and hence don't grow and because they don't grow, they don't get loans. It is a classic "catch-22" situation. Ironically, large lending to big corporations continues despite the risk of them becoming insolvent.

The credit gap for MSMEs as estimated by the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and Intellect stands at ₹16.7 lakh crore. Loan approvals, logistics support, technology access and market access work against the MSME growth ambition. Unlike large companies, they do not have the support of a

strong network of people, resources and marketing channels, most of which become easily accessible with scale.

MSMEs are often seen competing with large corporations and this should be avoided through policy measures. Certain products and categories should be prioritised for MSMEs along with pre-defined quality standards. What affects the MSMEs further is that they don't have the experience of learnings from management education to have an appropriate appreciation of the grammar of business. Theirs is a hit and trial growth.

The future of MSMEs depends significantly on big corporations buying from them. They thus link up with big businesses through disadvantaged negotiations of prices and payment terms, forcing them to borrow more and more. Add to that scenario, the difficulties of delayed income tax and Goods and Services Tax (GST) refunds which further prevent growth. Thus, in the payment hierarchy, where MSMEs are last and have little bargaining power, they are forced to continue the relationship which is contingent on them remaining

small. Equally, the MSMEs are unable to apply pressure to reduce dues as they are made to feel that their future business is at stake. Due to the lack of skilled and professional manpower, they are unable to create the required pressure.

Their access to grievance redressal is either not available or has very low resolution levels. Many don't know how to leverage the redressal system. They fear that seeking such remedy would jeopardise their future business as ultimately they have to fall back on the same business houses for repeat business and the same service providers. For the MSMEs, a nose above the water is as good as it gets.

The creation of a favourable ecosystem for MSMEs would thus remain contingent on regulators assisting in clearance of their bills. Pay or be dealt with swiftly or pay up the interest which the MSMEs are paying for no fault of theirs. Investing in a mechanism to build resilience and strengthen the longevity muscle of MSMEs would help break barriers and capture global markets.

(The writer is Co-founder, Handygo Behtar Zindagi)

US will collapse if Biden is elected Prez: Trump

Washington: President Donald Trump has said that the US would collapse and become the world's laughing stock if the Democratic Party's presumptive nominee Joe Biden wins the November 3 presidential elections.

Trump said Biden's proposed policies were not good for the country.

"Today, we saw Joe Biden continue to politicise a pandemic and to show his appalling lack of respect for the American people. That's what it is. At every turn, Biden has been wrong about the virus, ignoring the scientific evidence and putting left-wing politics before facts and evidence," Trump told reporters on Thursday at the White House.

"The world will be laughing and taking full advantage of the United States if Joe Biden ever became President. Our Country would COLLAPSE!" Trump said in a tweet.

Trump's tweet included a Fox News video clipping in which its news anchor was crit-

ical of Indian-American Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal for praising Biden. The Fox News anchor described Jayapal as socialist and a genuine radical.

"Sleepy Joe opposed both the China and the Europe travel bans. You know that. He opposed the China travel ban that I instituted very early and the Europe travel ban that I instituted quite early. If I listened to his advice, hundreds of thousands more people would have died. This is according to many people," the president said.

Trump alleged Biden wants to fling open American borders, allowing the pandemic to infiltrate every American community. "He wants to have ridiculous open borders. I've been saying from the first day I started campaigning for this great office that if you have open borders, you don't have a country. You don't have a country, with open borders. So he wants open borders. The Democrats want open borders," he said.

While Biden will allow riot-

ers, looters and millions of illegal aliens to roam free in our country, he also wants the federal government to issue a sweeping new mandate to law-abiding citizens, Trump alleged.

"He wants the President of the United States, with the mere stroke of a pen, to order over 300 million American citizens to wear a mask for a minimum of three straight months. He thinks it's good politics. Different states are different, both in terms of the atmosphere and also in terms of the coronavirus problem," he said.

"If the President has the unilateral power to order every single citizen to cover their face in nearly all instances, what other powers does he have," Trump asked. The president alleged that Biden rejects the scientific approach in favour of locking all Americans in their basements for months on end.

"We've been dealing pretty strongly over the last number of weeks. But he wants them in the basement for months on end," he said. **PTI**

Nepal's ruling CPN forms 6-member task force to resolve party rift

Kathmandu: The ruling Nepal Communist Party on Friday formed a six-member task force to resolve the intra-party rift as Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli and the party's executive chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' resumed their talks after a hiatus of over a week.

The taskforce, led by General Secretary Bishnu Poudel, will recommend ways to sort out the differences in the party after Prachanda and senior leader Madhav Kumar Nepal demanded Prime Minister Oli's resignation.

The task force also has Standing Committee members Shankar Pokhrel, Janardan Sharma, Bhim Rawal, Surendra Pandey and Pampha Bhusal, according to party sources.

The decision to form the task force was taken after a meeting between Oli and Prachanda on Friday.

The two leaders resumed their talks on Thursday and held a one-on-one meeting at the

Prime Minister's residence at Baluwatar in Kathmandu to sort out their differences and resolve the intra-party rift. This was their first meeting after over a week.

Oli during a television interview on Wednesday said that the ongoing intra-party tussle will be settled within five days.

Oli and Prachanda have held several meetings to sort out the differences between them. But, as the Prime Minister did not accept the condition of a one-man-one-post, the talks failed. Oli has refused to give up his post as prime minister as well as a co-chairman of the NCP.

A bitter internal feud has been brewing in the ruling NCP after top party leaders, including Prachanda, demanded Oli's resignation, saying his recent anti-India remarks were "neither politically correct nor diplomatically appropriate." They are also against Oli's autocratic style of functioning. **PTI**

Kabul begins release of final 400 Taliban, talks to follow

Kabul: Afghanistan has released the first 80 of a final 400 Taliban prisoners, paving the way for negotiations between the warring sides in Afghanistan's protracted conflict, the government said Friday.

Javid Faisal, spokesman for the National Security Council's office, made the announcement.

Taliban officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they are not authorised to speak to the media, said 86 prisoners were freed. It wasn't immediately known when the remaining prisoners would be freed.

Prisoner releases on both sides are part of an agreement signed in February between the US and Taliban. It calls for the

release of 5,000 Taliban held by the government and 1,000 government and military personnel held by the insurgent group as a good will gesture ahead of intra-Afghan negotiations.

Talks are expected to be held in Qatar where the Taliban maintain a political office. Several Afghan leaders told The Associated Press talks could begin by August 20.

These negotiations are to lay out a framework for a post-war Afghanistan.

Washington's peace envoy Zalmay Khalilzad spent a year-and-a-half negotiating the peace deal aimed at allowing American troops to return home and end America's longest military engagement.

US troops have already begun leaving and by

November less than 5,000 troops are expected to still be in Afghanistan down from nearly 13,000 when the agreement was signed Feb. 29.

American and NATO troop withdrawal is contingent on the Taliban keeping their commitment not to allow militant groups to use Afghanistan against the United States or its allies. The withdrawal is not tied to successful talks between the warring sides.

Last weekend, Afghan President Ashraf Ghani held a traditional council meeting known as loya jirga to get a consensus on the release of a final 400 Taliban he said were accused of serious crimes, saying without explanation that he could not unilaterally decide to release them. **AP**

China attacks new US demand to register Confucius Institutes

Beijing: China accused the United States on Friday of trying to "demonise and stigmatise" relations between the two countries, in a scathing attack on the Trump administration's designation of Chinese-funded language and culture programmes in the US as foreign missions of the Chinese Communist Party.

Foreign ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian said branches of the Confucius Institute US Centre operating at US schools and colleges are a "bridge and link to help peo-

ple from all over the world learn Chinese, understand China, and strengthen educational and cultural exchanges and cooperation between China and other countries."

Zhao said the accusations against the institutes were without basis and were motivated by "ideological prejudice and self-interest." "The relevant US approach is to demonise and stigmatise the normal operation of China-US cooperation projects. We strongly deplore and oppose it," Zhao said at a daily briefing. **AP**

Officials: US seizes Iranian gas heading for Venezuela

Miami (US): The Trump administration has seized the cargo of four tankers it was targeting for transporting Iranian fuel to Venezuela, U.S. Officials said Thursday, as it steps up its campaign of maximum pressure against the two heavily sanctioned allies.

Last month, federal prosecutors in Washington filed a civil forfeiture complaint alleging that the sale was arranged by a businessman, Mahmoud Madanipour, with ties to Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps, a U.S.-designated foreign terrorist organization.

At the time, sanctions experts thought it would be

impossible to enforce the U.S. Court order in international waters.

A senior U.S. Official told The Associated Press that no military force was used in the seizures and that the ships weren't physically confiscated.

Rather, US Officials threatened ship owners, insurers and captains with sanction to force them to hand over their cargo, which now becomes US Property, the official said. Prosecutors alleged the 4 ships were transporting to Venezuela 1.1 million barrels of gasoline. But the tankers never arrived at the South American country and then went missing. **AP**

11 killed, 27 missing in rain-triggered landslides in Nepal

Kathmandu: Powerful landslides triggered by torrential rains hit central Nepal's Sindhupalchowk district on Friday, killing at least 11 people and leaving 27 others missing, an official said.

The landslides hit Jugal Rural Municipality of Sindhupalchowk district, 130 kilometres east of Kathmandu on Friday morning.

Five people who sustained serious injuries have been airlifted by the Nepal Army in a helicopter and brought to the district headquarters where they are undergoing treatment, the official said. **PTI**

Letting Iran arms embargo expire is 'nuts': Pompeo

Vienna: US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo on Friday urged an extension to a UN arms embargo on Iran, saying it would be "nuts" to let it expire.

Opposition from UN Security Council veto powers China and Russia is expected to block a resolution to extend the blockade beyond October.

Pompeo reiterated during a visit to Vienna that Iran should not be allowed to buy and sell weapons, calling the Islamic Republic "the world's largest state sponsor of terrorism."

"I mean that's just nuts... We're urging the whole world to

join us" to extend the arms embargo, he said.

As things stand arms sanctions are set to be eased gradually from October, under a Security Council resolution blessing a 2015 deal Iran signed with world powers to limit its ability to develop a nuclear bomb -- in exchange for easing trade barriers.

The landmark deal has come under strain since the US pulled out of it in 2018.

As Washington has re-imposed crippling sanctions, Tehran has in turn stepped up its nuclear activities again since

last year.

Pompeo urged Tehran to provide "full, transparent and immediate cooperation" with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which monitors Iran's compliance with the nuclear deal.

Stepping up enrichment

After meeting Pompeo on Friday, IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi told reporters that Iran had still not granted the agency access to two sites where it has requested access in order to clarify questions about possible undeclared nuclear activity in the early 2000s. **AFP**

Mail-in ballots sent to Trump, First Lady in Florida

Palm Beach: President Donald Trump has requested a mail-in ballot for Florida's Tuesday primary election, despite weeks of criticizing the practice.

Ballots were mailed on Wednesday to both the president and First Lady Melania Trump at the Mar-a-Lago resort, which Trump lists as his legal address, according to online Palm Beach County elections records. Both previously voted by mail for the presidential preference primary in March, according to records.

Following multiple claims that mail-in voting was unsafe and vulnerable to fraud, Trump changed his mind about the practice last week, at least in Florida. "Whether you call it Vote by Mail or Absentee Voting, in Florida the election system is Safe and Secure, Tried and True," Trump tweeted last Tuesday. **AP**

Assange will never have fair trial chance in UK, US: Ex-Ecuadorian Consul

London: Former Ecuadorian Consul in London Fidel Narvaez told Sputnik ahead of Friday's administrative hearing in Wikileaks founder Julian Assange's extradition case that the whistleblower will never get a fair trial either in the UK or in the United States.

"There is plenty of evidence showing that Assange is a victim of a judicial persecution and that he is not getting a fair extradition trial here in the UK, and certainly will not have a fair trial in the US," the former diplomat told Sputnik in a phone interview.

According to Narvaez, the judicial persecution against the Australian journalist began even before he was arrested on April 11, 2019, at the Ecuadorian embassy in London, where he enjoyed political asylum for

seven years to avoid being sent to Sweden until Ecuador's current government handed him into the UK police last year. **AFP**

NORTHERN RAILWAY (TENDER NOTICE)

The Deputy Chief Engineer /Survey & Const., Tilak Bridge, Northern Railway, New Delhi, for and on behalf of the President of India invites open e-tender for the following work:-

| | |
|---|--|
| Mode of Tender | E-Tender (Single Packet) |
| Tender Notice No. | 283-W/S&C/TKJ/FLS/DL/FZR-BTI & JHL-HSR/2020 Dated: 14.08.2020 |
| Full Name of work | Final Location Survey (FLS) for doubling of Firozpur-Bhatinda and Jakhal-Hisar (168.80 kms). Carrying out detail Engineering survey including Levelling, alignment, soil exploration, preparation of plans, L-sections, GA plans of Bridges etc., bill of quantities and other ancillary activities related in connection with preparation of DPR. |
| Approx. cost | Rs. 1,08,02,686/- (Rs. One Crore Eight Lakhs Two thousand Six Hundred and Eighty Six only). |
| Completion Period | 06 months (Six months) |
| Earnest money amount | Rs. 2,04,000/- (Rs. Two Lakh Four thousand only) |
| Sale/availability of tender document on Rly. Website | Tender documents will be available on IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in from 15.08.2020 to 07.09.2020 upto 11:30 hrs. |
| Last date/Time of upload of tenders | 07.09.2020 upto 11:30 hours. Tender documents can be uploaded by the tenderer(s) on IREPS website w.e.f. 23.08.2020 to 07.09.2020. |
| Date and time of opening of tender | 07.09.2020 at 11:30 hours (immediately after close of uploading of tender (D2) in the office of Chief Administrative Officer/Const, N.Rly, Kashmere Gate, Delhi-110006. |

This notice is available on www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in website and documents on www.ireps.gov.in site is available. **Tender Notice No. 283-W/S&C/TKJ/FLS/DL/FZR-BTI & JHL-HSR/2020** Dated: 14.08.2020 1771/2020

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पत्र सं. 494. **E-Tender Notice** दिनांक: 13.08.2020

Office of the Executive Engineer, Project Distribution Division, Dakpather (D.Dun), invites sealed tenders from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:-

Tender No. **PDD-09/2020-21**

Name of work/supply/services etc. : **Supply of aerial work platform (Hydraulic system) mounted on 4 wheeler vehicle.**

Estimated cost : **Rs. 14,00,000/- + GST extra.**

Date of availability of bid document on website : **13.08.2020**

Last date for submission of tender : **04.09.2020**

For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal <http://uktenders.gov.in> (Executive Engineer)

"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE

The Dy. Chief Engineer/Construction/Northern Railway, Tilak Bridge, New Delhi for and on behalf of the President of India invites open e-tender under Single-packet system for the following work:-

| | |
|--|--|
| 1. Name of work and location | Hiring of 03 (three) Nos. Non-AC Vehicle such as 'Jeep, Gypsy, Tata Sumo type of vehicle' on the monthly basis for a period of 02 (Two) years for the offices (XENIC-ITKJ, XENIC-IITKJ & XENIC/ROK) working in the unit of Dy. Chief Engineer/Construction, Tilak Bridge, New Delhi |
| 2. Completion of the work | 24 (twenty four) months |
| 3. Approx. Cost of work | Rs. 34,71,680.16 only |
| 4. Earnest Money to be deposited | Rs. 69,400.00 only |
| 5. Date & Time for submission of E-tender and opening of tender | Tender may be uploaded up to 11.30 hrs. on 07.09.2020 on IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in . The bidders can participate in the e-tender, the Bids of which will be opened at 11.30 hrs. on 07.09.2020. |
| 6. Detailed Tender Notice & Tender Document | The detailed e-tender notice is available on Northern Railway website i.e. www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in above tenders document will be available on IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in from 24.08.2020 to 07.09.2020 and bidders will be able to offer their technical and financial bid from 07.09.2020. |

All other terms and conditions in respect of above tenders are given in tender document.

No.: 454-ACS/C/Vehicle/TKJ dtd: 14.08.2020 1767/2020

Serving Customers with a Smile

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male **Age: 26 years, Complexion: Fair, Height: 5'4", Clothes: Without Clothes, was found in Hari Park, Mukund Pur, Delhi, In this regard a DD No. 90A, dated 07.08.2020, has been lodged at P.S. Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi.**

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

SHO
P.S. Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi
Ph: 011-27811933, 27811934
DP/407/ON/2020

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General Public is hereby informed that one male **Name: Anil, S/o Kedar Singh, R/o: Street No. 14, Mangal Bazar, Pooja Colony, Pavi Sahadatpur, Loni, Ghaziabad, U.P.**, has been missing from 10703, Manak Pura, Sabzi Bazar, Delhi, since **24.06.2020** from the area of P.S. DBG Road, Delhi In this regard a case vide **DD No. 35A, dated 06.08.2020** has been lodged at P.S. DBG Road, Delhi. The description of the missing/ kidnapped male is as under: **Age: 32 years, Height: 5'8", Face: Oval, Complexion: Wheatish, Built: Thin, Wearing: Black colour T-shirt and white colour pant.** Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the female but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this female kindly inform to the following:-

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail Id - cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 **SHO**
Fax No. 011-24368639 **P.S. DBG Road, Delhi**
DP/267/CD/2020 **Ph.: 011- 23613252, 8750870429**

SEARCH FOR MISSING FEMALE

General Public is hereby informed that one female (depicted in the photo) namely Chandni with her Son Krishna D/o Hariom Sharma R/o C-48, Street No.9, Mange Ram Park Ext., Budh Vihar, Ph-II, Delhi **Aged-28** Years has been reported missing since 29.07.2020 at about 11.30 AM from her residence vide **DD No. 69A Dated 30.07.2020** registered at Police Station Budh Vihar, Delhi. Her physical description is as under:- **Complexion: Wheatish, Height: 5'4". Face: Long, Built: Thin, Clothing: Parrot Green coloured Suit, Salwar and Cream coloured jutti**

Child description: Complexion: Wheatish, Height: 2', Face: Round, Built: Normal, Clothing: Grey coloured T-shirt, Red coloured half shorts and Blue coloured slipper in feet.

Any person having any information/Clue about this missing female & her children, may inform SHO, Budh Vihar, Delhi at E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in or website : <http://cbi.nic.in>

Sd/-
SHO, Budh Vihar, Delhi
Tel.: 011-27052772-73
Mob.: 8750870326
DP/300/RD/2020

Belarus frees detainees amid protesters' pressure

Minsk: Belarusian authorities have released about 1,000 people detained amid demonstrations contesting the results of the presidential election, in an attempt to assuage public anger against a brutal crackdown on peaceful protests.

Around midnight, scores of detainees were seen walking out of one of Minsk's jails. In the early morning, volunteers also saw at least 119 detainees being released in the city of Zhodino just northeast of the Belarusian capital. **AP**

Iran, Turkey lash out at UAE over agreement with Israel

Tehran: Iran and Turkey lashed out at their regional rival the United Arab Emirates on Friday over its decision to normalise diplomatic relations with Israel in a US-brokered deal, accusing it of betraying the Palestinian cause.

Iran's Foreign Ministry called the deal a "dagger that was unjustly struck by the

UAE in the backs of the Palestinian people and all Muslims."

Turkey said the peoples of the region "will never forget and will never forgive this hypocritical behaviour" by the UAE.

The UAE, which has never fought Israel and has quietly been improving ties for years, said the agreement put

a hold on Israel's plans to unilaterally annex parts of the occupied West Bank, which the Palestinians view as the heartland of their future state.

But the Turkish Foreign Ministry said the UAE had no authority to negotiate with Israel on behalf of the Palestinians or "to make concessions on matters vital to Palestine." **AP**

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| Website: www.parijatpapermills.com , Email id: parijatpapermills@yahoo.com | | | | |
| STATEMENT OF STANDALONE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30.06.2020 | | | | |
| (Amount in Lakhs) | | | | |
| Sr. No. | PARTICULARS | Quarter Ended 31.06.2020 (Unaudited) | Quarter Ended 31.03.2020 (Audited) | Quarter Ended 30.06.2019 (Unaudited) |
| 1. | Total income from operations | 442.22 | 1615.15 | 1726.83 |
| 2. | Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items) | -40.49 | 6.67 | 0.94 |
| 3. | Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items) | -40.49 | 6.67 | 0.94 |
| 4. | Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items) | -40.49 | -1.11 | 0.68 |
| 5. | Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and other Comprehensive Income (after Tax)] | -40.49 | -1.11 | 0.68 |
| 6. | Paid-up Equity share capital (Face value Rs. 10/- each) | 329.00 | 329.00 | 329.00 |
| 7. | Other Equity [Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserves) and Retained Earnings] | 518.85 | 559.34 | 515.38 |
| 8. | Earnings per share (of Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) | -1.23 | -0.03 | 0.02 |
| a) | Basic | | | |
| b) | Diluted | | | |

Notes:-

- The above results were reviewed by an Audit Committee and thereafter taken on record by the Board of Directors in their meeting on 13.08.2020 after review by an Audit Committee.
- The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly & year to date financial results filed with the stock exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the quarterly & year to date financial results are available on the Stock Exchange website (www.mseil.in) and the company's website (www.parijatpapermills.com).

For Parijat Paper Mills Limited Sd/-
Amit Mittal
(Whole Time Director)
DIN:00754471

Date : 13.08.2019
Place: Muzaffarnagar

SPORTKING INDIA LTD.

CIN: L17122DL1989PLC035050
Regd. Off.: 5/69, First Floor, Guru Mansion, Padam Singh Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005
Phone: 011-25754885
Website: www.sportking.co.in, Email: cs@sportking.co.in

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015 that a Meeting of the Board of Directors of the company is scheduled to be held on Friday, 21st August 2020, to consider and to take on record, inter alia, the Un-Audited Financial Results for the quarter ended 30th June 2020. The above information is also available on the company's website: www.sportking.co.in and on the website of Stock Exchange i.e. BSE - www.bseindia.com.

For Sportking India Limited Sd/-
Munish Avasthi
Place: Ludhiana Managing Director
Date : 14.08.2020 DIN : 00442425

PUBLIC NOTICE

For inviting claims and objections if any towards sale/purchase of property mentioned herein below

NOTICE is hereby given to the public that my Client Shri S.S. Sai Baba S/o Late Shankar Narayan, residing at Plot No. 39, Saraswati Bhawan, A-1, Upper Ground Floor, A-Blok, Shanti Kunj, Vasant Kunj, Church Road, New Delhi-70 intend to purchase the property from Sunil Chaudhary S/o Late Shri Rishi Singh, residing at F-130/A, Gautam Nagar, New Delhi, the flat being Flat at Third Floor had an area measuring 100 Sq. Yards having One Bed Room, toilet, with roof rights. That the said flat is in the name of Sunil Chaudhary S/o Late Shri Rishi Singh and he have the lawful possession and right to sell the said flat. The undersigned advocate hereby invites claims or objections from claimants or objectors for the transfer of the said right, interest or title in the said flat, within a period of 14 days from the publication of this notice, with copies of documentary proofs to support the claim/object. If no claims/objections are received within the period prescribed above, the negotiation will be completed and it will be presumed and/or deemed that there are no such claims/objections and if any, the same have been waived or abandoned and the client will be free to complete the purchase without any reference to such claims made thereafter.

Sd/-
Adv. Parivesh Singh
B-122, G.D. Colony,
Mayur Vihar Phase-3, Delhi-110096
9891662235, 9278724786,
Email: pleaders08@gmail.com

WESTERN RAILWAY

ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

Tender No.: SG 623/1443/WA-R (Single Tender) dated 13/08/2020 Department: Signal & Telecomm Executive: Sr.DSTE(N)BCT Work and location: Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract of Electronic Interlocking (EI) system (Kyosan make) at VAPI station in Virar - Surat section of Mumbai Division for 3 years. Approx. Cost of Work: Rs.67,68,658/- Particular office where E-tender open: Senior Divisional Signal & Telecomm Engineer(North), 2nd Floor, Divisional Railway Manager's Office, Mumbai Central, Mumbai-400 008 Earnest Money Deposit: Rs. 1,35,40,000/-

Type of E-Tender: Single E-Tender Type & Date for closure for submission of E-Tender Documents: On 15.00 hrs. on 14.09.2020. Time & Date for opening of E-Tender: On 15.30 hrs. on 14.09.2020

The tender can be viewed at web site <http://www.ireps.gov.in>. **ANJ-08**

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RBI to pay ₹57,128 cr dividend to Govt

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India board on Friday approved a dividend payout of Rs 57,128 crore to the government, a move in line with the Budget expectation but may not help plug a huge revenue hole created by the pandemic and slowing economy.

The surplus transfer of Rs 57,128 crore for the accounting year 2019-20 compared with Rs 1.76 lakh crore transferred last year, which included Rs 1.23 lakh crore as dividend and Rs 52,637 crore excess provisions identified

as per the revised Economic Capital Framework (ECF).

In a statement, the RBI said its central board headed by Governor Shaktikanta Das "reviewed the current economic situation, continued global and domestic challenges and the monetary, regulatory, and other measures taken by RBI to mitigate the economic impact of COVID-19 pandemic".

"The Board also approved the transfer of Rs 57,128 crore as surplus to the Central Government for the accounting year 2019-20, while deciding to maintain the Contingency Risk

Buffer at 5.5 per cent," it said.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the budget for 2020-21 had provisioned receipt of Rs 60,000 crore in dividend from the RBI and other banks to bridge the fiscal deficit. But, government officials had expected more from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

The government is facing a larger-than-expected shortfall in revenue as the economy heads for its first full-year contraction since 1979. With the COVID-19 pandemic disrupting businesses, it is widely speculated that tax collections

will miss the target.

At the same time, the government is being forced to spend more to cushion the blow from the pandemic, straining the budget deficit.

The central bank largely earns profit through its trading of currencies and government bonds as well as printing of notes and coins.

Part of these earnings is set aside by the RBI for its operational and contingency needs, while the rest is transferred to the government in the form of dividend.

RBI's financial year runs

from July-June at present and is scheduled to be harmonised with the government's April-March fiscal starting FY22. In the current year, the RBI will have a nine-month financial year, ending in March.

The central bank's payout to the government last year was more due to a one-time transfer on account of the adoption of a new economic capital framework that calls for maintaining the level of the contingency risk buffer, or realised equity, at between 5.5 and 6.5 per cent of RBI's balance sheet.

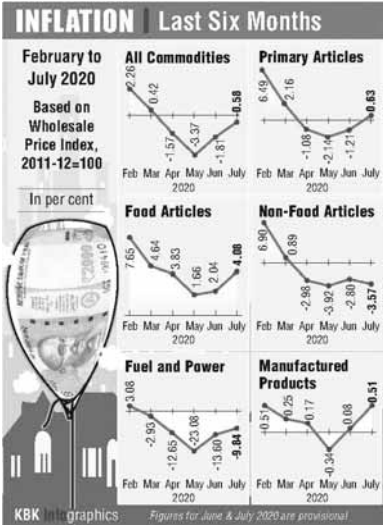
WPI inflation falls 0.58% in July, food prices spike

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The wholesale price-based inflation stood at (-)0.58 pc in July, remaining in the negative zone for the fourth straight month even as vegetables and other food items turned costlier. WPI inflation in June was (-) 1.81 per cent, while for the month of May and April it was (-) 3.37 per cent and (-) 1.57 per cent respectively.

"The annual rate of inflation, based on monthly WPI (Wholesale Price Index), stood at (-) 0.58 per cent (provisional) for the month of July, 2020 as compared to 1.17 per cent during the corresponding month of the previous year, the commerce and industry ministry said in a statement.

Inflation in food articles was at a four-month high level of 4.08 per cent in July, mainly due to sharp rise in vegetable prices. Inflation in vegetables



ened and inflation fell 25.56 per cent, while in fruits it was (-) 3.03 per cent. Inflation in fuel and power basket fell 9.84 per cent in July, compared to 13.60 per cent drop in the previous month. Manufactured products, however, witnessed inflation of 0.51 per cent in July, against 0.08 per cent in June.

ICRA Principal Economist Aditi Nayar said the considerable narrowing in the WPI disinflation in July 2020 relative to the previous month, was along expected lines, with a correction in the index levels for crude oil and mineral oils, further narrowing of the core disinflation and a rise in food inflation. "The surge in tomato prices and moderate rise in potato prices pushed up the vegetable inflation in July 2020, contributing to the uptick in the inflation for primary food articles to a four-month high.

Markets retreat for 3rd day; bank stocks bleed

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Equity indices nursed losses for the third straight session on Friday as investors pruned exposure to banking, financial and consumption stocks amid negative global cues.

Weak macroeconomic data and a depreciating rupee further curbed risk appetite, traders said.

Tanking 663 points from the day's high, the 30-share BSE Sensex settled 433.15 points or 1.13 per cent lower at 37,877.34.

The broader NSE Nifty slumped 122.05 points or 1.08 per cent to close at 11,178.40.

Axis Bank was the top laggard in the Sensex pack, slipping 2.81 per cent, followed by SBI, M&M, Bajaj Finance, ITC, HDFC Bank, HCL Tech and IndusInd Bank.

Only five index constituents ended in the green — Sun Pharma, NTPC, Tata Steel, Titan and Infosys, rising up to 2.04 per cent. During the week, the Sensex declined 163.23 points or 0.42 per cent, while the Nifty fell 35.65 points or 0.31 per cent.

"Indian markets tracked weak global cues in the latter part of the trading day to end with losses. The uncertainty was with regards to the US-China trade meet this weekend and a lack of wholesome pickup in economic activity in many countries, including China.

"The Indian retail inflation numbers that came in above the MPCs" target also put doubt on expected rate cuts by the RBI, which the market was looking forward to. Weak results especially in the Auto sector also contributed to the losses," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

Retail inflation rose to 6.93 per cent in July, mainly driven by rising prices of food items like vegetables, pulses,

meat and fish, official data released post market hours on Thursday showed.

BSE auto, bankex, finance, oil and gas, FMCG and telecom indices fell up to 2.50 per cent in Friday's session, while metal, healthcare and consumer durables closed higher.

Broader BSE mid-cap and small-cap indices fell up to 1.02 per cent.

Global equities were under pressure following lacklustre industrial production and retail sales data in China.

Bourses in Hong Kong and Seoul ended in the red, while Shanghai and Tokyo settled with gains.

Stock exchanges in Paris, Frankfurt and London plunged up to 2 per cent in early deals, dragged by travel stocks, after the UK added more European countries to its quarantine list.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude was trading 0.65 per cent lower at USD 44.67 per barrel. In the forex market, the rupee settled 6 paise lower at 74.90 against US dollar.

₹ settles 6 paise lower at 74.90 against US \$

Mumbai: The rupee on Friday slid 6 paise to end at 74.90 against US dollar as data showing slow economic recovery and higher inflation dampened forex market sentiment.

At the interbank forex market, the local unit opened at 74.85 and then lost further ground to settle at 74.90, registering a decline of 6 paise over its previous close of 74.84 to the US dollar.

During the session, the rupee witnessed an intra-day high of 74.74 and a low of 74.93 against the greenback.

On weekly basis, the rupee inched up 3 paise against the US dollar. PTI

Bank credit grows 5.51 pc, deposits 11.11 pc: RBI data

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Bank credit and deposits grew 5.51 per cent and 11.11 per cent to Rs 102.65 lakh crore and Rs 141.61 lakh crore, respectively, in the fortnight ended July 31, according to the latest data from the RBI.

In the fortnight ended August 2, 2019, bank credit and deposits were at Rs 97.29 lakh crore and Rs 127.44 lakh crore, respectively.

On a year-on-year (y-o-y) basis, non-food bank credit growth was at 6.7 per cent in June 2020, nearly the same as in May 2020 but lower than the growth of 11.1 per cent in June 2019.

Allow e-way bill for intra-State transportation of gold: GoM

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

States can make e-way bill mandatory for transportation of gold within the respective states but implementing it for inter-state movement across India will not be feasible, a state-ministerial panel suggested on Friday.

The group of ministers (GoM), comprising finance ministers of Kerala, Bihar, Gujarat, Punjab, Karnataka and West Bengal, set up to examine feasibility of implementation of e-way bill for movement of gold and precious stones met via video conferencing.

"It was decided that if any state wants to implement e-way bill for gold, they can do so for intra- or within the state transportation," Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Modi told PTI.

Gr Noida brings open-ended scheme of residential buildings

Greater Noida: On the occasion of Independence Day, the Greater Noida Authority is bringing an open-ended scheme of residential buildings from date, GNIDA CEO Narendra Bhooshan said.

Under which you can decorate the dream of dwelling by not applying for the request. It is a special occasion for them that if they are living on rent or are confused with the breathtaking plans of the builders, then the authority is providing them a lot of opportunity to choose the building of their choice in this scheme.



METRO RLY OBSERVES CLEANLINESS WEEK

Kolkata: Metro Railway has undertaken a special cleanliness drive in order to observe Cleanliness Week from 10th August to 16th August, 2020. Metro officers and staff have been participating in this drive in order to make Metro premises more beautiful and clean and augment its aesthetics.

On Friday for the fifth consecutive day, cleanliness drives were organised at North-South and East-West Metro stations in which Metro staff participated in numbers maintaining all COVID-19 protocols.

During this week, special focus is given on collection and disposal of plastic wastes in and around Metro premises.

Milaap introduces free fundraising

New Delhi: For charitable organisations and personal causes during the Covid pandemic, Milaap is introducing a free fundraising platform for the upcoming festive season from the Independence Day.

"We made Milaap free for all relief related fundraisers as a token of gratitude. Therefore, it made perfect sense for extending this 0% fee to all fundraisers," said Mayukh Choudhury, co-founder and CEO of Milaap.

| SUPRA INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES LIMITED | | | | |
|--|---|----------------|------------------------|---|
| 1212, Hemkund Tower, 89, Nehru Place, New Delhi - 110 019 | | | | |
| Phone: 011-41608956, Website: www.supraindustrialresources.in | | | | |
| Email: supraexchange@gmail.com CIN: L65999DL1985PLC019987 | | | | |
| Standalone Unaudited Financial Results for the Quarter Ended 30.06.2020 | | | | |
| Rs. in Lakhs (Except EPS) | | | | |
| S. No. | Particulars | Quarter Ending | Previous Quarter Ended | Corresponding three months ended in the previous year |
| | | 30-Jun-20 | 31-Mar-20 | 30-Jun-19 |
| | | Unaudited | Audited | Unaudited |
| 1 | Total income from operations (net) | 0.91 | 0.99 | 1.09 |
| 2 | Net Profit/(Loss) from ordinary activities after tax* | (1.28) | (1.87) | (1.86) |
| 3 | otal Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)] | (1.28) | (1.87) | (1.86) |
| 4 | Equity Share Capital | 25.00 | 25.00 | 25.00 |
| 5 | Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve as shown in the Balance Sheet of previous year) | 12.26 | 12.26 | 18.60 |
| 6 | Earnings Per Share (from ordinary items) (of Rs.10/- each) (In Rs.) 1. Basic: 2. Diluted : | (0.50) | (2.55) | (0.74) |
| *The Company does not have any extraordinary item to report for the above period | | | | |
| Notes: | | | | |
| 1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarter ended 30.06.2020 Financial results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (LODR) Regulation, 2015. The full financial results are available on the company's Website www.supraindustrialresources.in and on the stock exchange website www.mse.in | | | | |
| 2. The Unaudited standalone financial results of the Company for the quarter ended 30.06.2020 have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting held on 14.08.2020 | | | | |
| 3. This statement has been prepared in accordance with the companies (Indian accounting Standards) Rules 2015 (Ind AS) prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 and other recognised accounting practices and policies to the extend applicable. | | | | |
| for Supra Industrial Resources Ltd., | | | | |
| Sd/- | | | | |
| Rajat Agarwal | | | | |
| Director | | | | |
| (DIN 00626205) | | | | |
| Place: New Delhi | | | | |
| Date: 14.08.2020 | | | | |

| SUPERIOR FINLEASE LIMITED | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---------------|------------|---------------|--------------|------------|----------|
| CIN: L74899DL1994PLC061995 | | | | | | | |
| Regd. Off: NS-92, Kharsa No-33/21, Ranaji Enclave, Najafgarh, Near Arjun Park Bus Stand New Delhi -110043 | | | | | | | |
| Email id: superiorfinlease@gmail.com; Website: www.superiorfinlease.com | | | | | | | |
| Extract of Statement of Un-audited Financial Results for the quarter ended on June 30, 2020 | | | | | | | |
| (Rupees in lacs) | | | | | | | |
| Sl No. | Particulars | STANDALONE | | | CONSOLIDATED | | |
| | | Quarter ended | Year ended | Quarter ended | Year ended | | |
| | | 30-06-20 | 30-06-19 | 31-03-20 | 30-06-20 | 30-06-19 | 31-03-20 |
| | | Un-audited | Un-audited | Audited | Un-audited | Un-audited | Audited |
| 1 | Total Income from operations | 23.10 | 22.85 | 102.33 | 23.10 | 22.85 | 102.33 |
| 2 | Net Profit for the period (Before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items) | 15.74 | 8.16 | 22.09 | 15.74 | 8.16 | 22.09 |
| 3 | Net Profit for the period Before Tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items) | 15.74 | 8.16 | 22.09 | 16.13 | 8.16 | 22.09 |
| 4 | Net Profit for the period After Tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items) | 15.74 | 6.04 | 16.31 | 16.13 | 6.04 | 16.31 |
| 5 | Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit) for the period (after tax) and other Comprehensive Income (after tax) | 15.74 | 4.95 | 18.91 | 16.13 | 4.95 | 18.91 |
| 6 | Equity Share Capital | 300.10 | 300.10 | 300.10 | 300.10 | 300.10 | 300.10 |
| 7 | Reserves (including Revaluation Reserves) as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet as shown in the previous year | 3.31 | (8.67) | (11.27) | 3.31 | (8.67) | (11.27) |
| 8 | Earning Per Share (of Rs.10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) | | | | | | |
| | (a) Basic and Diluted EPS (before Extra-ordinary items) (in Rs.) | 0.52 | 0.20 | 0.54 | 0.54 | 0.20 | 0.54 |
| | (b) Basic and Diluted EPS (after Extra-ordinary items) (in Rs.) | 0.52 | 0.20 | 0.54 | 0.54 | 0.20 | 0.54 |
| Note: The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Results are available on the Stock Exchange Website (www.mse.in and www.bseindia.com) and Company's website www.superiorfinlease.com . | | | | | | | |
| For Superior Finlease Limited | | | | | | | |
| Sd/- | | | | | | | |
| (RAJNEESH KUMAR) | | | | | | | |
| Director | | | | | | | |
| DIN: 02463693 | | | | | | | |
| Date : 13.08.2020 | | | | | | | |
| Place : New Delhi | | | | | | | |

बिहार सरकार

प्राचार्य का कार्यालय,

दरभंगा चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय, लहेरियासराय

निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

भारतीय चिकित्सा परिषद, नई दिल्ली के माध्यम से, को पूर्व काले हेतु दरभंगा चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय, लहेरियासराय के केन्द्रीय स्वास्थ्य एवं विभाग स्वास्थ्य के लिए विधि में 2020-21 में चिकित्सा प्रशिक्षण नवीकरण एवं पुनः प्रवेश, विभिन्न विभागों/विशेषज्ञों के जर्नल (सर्टिफिकेट ऑफ़ अक्विजिशन) की अनुमति करने हेतु प्रकाशकों, प्रशिक्षण विभाग को अलग अलग चिकित्सा विभागों को FPBA, नई दिल्ली के माध्यम से को पूर्व काले हेतु एवं जीव और जीव के द्वारा प्रशिक्षण / जर्नल की अनुमति के प्राप्ति एवं एजेंट की वेबसाइट पर (Terms and Condition) के साथ विभाग के प्रमाण प्रमाण की विधि से 21 दिनों के अन्दर प्रमाणित विभाग में निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना जारी की जायेगी। 21 दिनों के अन्दर निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना का अन्तर्गत दस्ता है या किसी अनधिकृत काल से प्रमाणित काल से दस्ता है तो उसके अन्तर्गत निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना की जायेगी। निविदा आमंत्रण करने की अन्तिम तिथि के अन्तर्गत निविदा आमंत्रण के सम्बन्धित निविदा सूची जारी की जायेगी। जिसमें निविदादाता या उनके प्राप्तिवत् प्रतिनिधि उपस्थित रह सकते हैं।

20-मेडिकल प्रशिक्षण / जर्नल की सूची केन्द्रीय प्रशिक्षण के माध्यम से 2020-21 में चिकित्सा प्रशिक्षण नवीकरण एवं पुनः प्रवेश का प्रमाण है या कार्यालय के वेबसाइट पर - www.darbhanga-medical-college.com पर देखी जा सकती है।

21-निविदा निविदा में प्रमाणित / जर्नल की सूची को मुख्य भारतीय स्वास्थ्य में GST रहित एवं GST सहित Excel Sheet में CD के साथ संलग्न करना अनिवार्य है।

22-निविदा हेतु Excel Sheet का प्रमाण।

SI.No.

Author

Name of books

Price

Discount

Total

PR. No. 004895 (Health) 2020-21

दरभंगा चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय, लहेरियासराय

नोबल कोरीना के संबंध में विस्तृत जानकारी एवं सहायता हेतु

Toll Free No.: 104 पर संपर्क कर सकते हैं।

आपका सम्पूर्ण-संबंधी किसी तरह की जानकारी अलग अलग सूत्रों हेतु दूरभाष संख्या 0612-2217436 पर सम्पर्क किया जा सकता है।

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client Khadak Singh S/o Late Talvir Singh R/o Plot No-T-65, Block-T, Shukar Bazar Road, Uttam Nagar West, N.Delhi-59 has disowned his Son Kamal Singh & his wife Pawan Pariyar/Neelam, their daughter Niharika from his movable and immovable property of my client, due to misbehaviour, disobedient & harmful towards my client. My Client has also severed all his relations with them. If anybody deals with them in any manner he or she all do so at his/her own risk. My Client shall not be responsible for the same in any manner.

Ramesh Anand (Advocate), Ch-88 Tis Hazari

PRAKASH WOOLLEN & SYNTHETIC MILLS LIMITED

CIN - L17291UP1979PLC004804

Regd. Office: 18th Km Stone, Delhi Moradabad Road NH-24, Village Amhera, Dist. J. P. Nagar, UP- 244102

Website: www.prakashwoollen.com

Email: info@prakashwoollen.com

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Pursuant to Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligation And Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company will be held on Friday, 21st August, 2020 to consider and take on record the Un-Audited Financial Results for the quarter ended on 30th June, 2020 among other things.

A copy of the said Notice and the Financial Results shall also be available at the Company's website at www.prakashwoollen.com and on Stock Exchange Website at www.bseindia.com

For Prakash Woollen & Synthetic Mills Limited

Sd/-

VJAY KUMAR GUPTA

WHOLETIME DIRECTOR & CFO

Place: Village Amhera (Amroha)

Date : 14.08.2020 DIN: 00335325

REGENT ENTERPRISES LTD

Registered Office : E-205 (LGF), Greater Kailash-II, New Delhi-110 048

Phone: 011-29213191

Email: info@regententerprises.in

CIN: L15500DL1994PLC153183

Website: www.regententerprises.in

NOTICE

Pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligation and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, Notice is hereby given that the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company will be held at 14/17, Naya Gang, Ghaziabad-201001 on Monday, the 24th day of August, 2020 at 4.00 pm, inter alia, to consider, approve Un-audited Financial Results of the Company for the quarter ended on 30th June, 2020.

Pursuant to this, the trading window for the insiders shall remain closed upto 48 hours of declaration of the results for all designated persons, their immediate relatives and all connected persons as amended. The same Financial Result of the Company will be available at www.regententerprises.com

FOR REGENT ENTERPRISES LTD

Place: New Delhi

Sd/-

Vikas Kumar

Whole Time Director

DIN: 05308192

NORTHERN RAILWAY

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Name of work and its location | 30-Elect-18-T-2020-21-E3 |
| Approx cost of the works in | Rs. 91.62 lacs |
| Address of the office | Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi. |
| Earnest Money | Rs. 183300.00 |
| Date & time of submission of tender | 08.09.2020, 12.00 Hrs. |
| Opening of tender | 08.09.2020, 12.00 Hrs. |
| Website & notice board | www.ireps.gov.in & Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi. |
| | 1759/2020 |

WESTERN RAILWAY

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE No.S/16/2020 Date 13.08.2020

| S.N. | Short Description of Item | Quantity | T.O.D. |
|------|--|-------------|------------|
| 428 | Real Time RT PCR | 1 No. | 28.09.2020 |
| 429 | Bogie Bolster Arrangement | 96 Nos. | 04.09.2020 |
| 430 | Paint Aluminium | 30160 Ltrs. | 05.09.2020 |
| 431 | Tensioning device Assy. | 315 Set | 05.09.2020 |
| 432 | Vinyl Coated Upholstery Fabric | 80917 Mtrs. | 07.09.2020 |
| 433 | Pair of Leather Hand Gloves | 12587 Pair | 07.09.2020 |
| 434 | Set of Lock Assy. | 43 set | 07.09.2020 |
| 435 | Cab Activating Key Switch (POS.No.125). | 37 Nos. | 07.09.2020 |
| 436 | Main compressor 1745 LPM | 80 Nos. | 07.09.2020 |
| 437 | High Reach Pantograph. | 48 Nos. | 07.09.2020 |
| 438 | CCPU Side Bearer Pad Assy. 22HS Bogies | 919 Nos. | 07.09.2020 |
| 439 | Centre Pivot Top for Casnub 22 HS(Mod-I) Bogie | 1166 Nos. | 07.09.2020 |



ISHAAN KHATTER

I am exhilarated to be a part of *Pippa*, a film of such magnitude and importance. It is directed by Raja Krishna Menon. Getting to play the suave and spirited tank commander Brigadier Balam Singh Mehta is a true privilege. I'm looking forward to the exciting experience of the film.



CHUNKY PANDAY

When I came into films in the late 80s and early 90s, it was all about these heroes doing the right things. The hero couldn't dream of doing anything negative, but then came SRK and he did films like *Darr*, *Baazigar* and now slowly, I have seen that even Akshay (Kumar) is doing it. Ranveer (Singh) has done it so convincingly in *Padmaavat*.



NAMIT DAS

I feel it is extremely important to make these big challenges of human existence a conversation in the public domain. What better way to spread awareness about them than through music? 'We are one' irrespective of caste, culture, religion, creed and colour. As humans, we need to do better and empathise with each other.



SUKHWINDER SINGH

The title track of the film, *Mere Desh Ki Dharti* is special for more than one reasons. The lyrics are beautiful yet powerful. The music stays with you. It's really an honour to be a part of such a spectacular song. What's most exciting is that it's releasing on Independence Day, the most befitting tribute to our country, our motherland.

VIKRANT MASSEY

The script of *14 Phere* hit me hard. The ideology of the film and the thought behind the story is something that has been with me, individually. It is a beautiful story that speaks of things relevant in today's times. I am looking forward to working with Kriti (Kharbanda).



INDEPENDENCE DAY SPECIAL 60 MINUTES

SHADES OF INDIA

As India marks its 74th Independence Day, National Geographic celebrates the pride of the nation by releasing never-seen-before images through an aerial lens



Representation of a meteorite entering earth's atmosphere.

India is known for its rich cultural heritage and history. From archaeological wonders like Taj Mahal to majestic palaces and forts, all narrate the testimony of our nation's regal lineage. As India marks its 74th Independence Day, National Geographic celebrates the pride of the nation by releasing never-seen-before images of the country through an aerial lens. These images have been shot as part of its forthcoming two-part series titled *India From Above*. Narrated by Dev Patel, the film highlights different aspects of our country from geological wonders, marvels of human engineering to some of the big festivals. Shot across one year spanning the length and breadth of the country using advanced 4k aerial filming technology, the series is a fitting tribute to our vibrant nation. From covering the largest democratic exercise in human history to ensuring ancient technique and skills are preserved for future generations, the film reveals how India is embracing its path to forge its future.

(The second part of the series premieres today at 10 pm on National Geographic.)



Ghanshyam Singh, Deputy Commandant of the Border Security Force, leads the Camel Contingent at a rehearsal. By Abhik Wadhwa



A sea of blue solar panels. By Abhik Wadhwa



The shifting sand dunes of the Thar at the India-Pakistan border in Rajasthan. By Raunak Sharma



Our drone glides past one of the fourteen gopurams as it captures the intricate carvings of the Meenakshi Amman Temple. By Raunak Sharma



The terrain of Ladakh as dusk approaches. By Abhik Wadhwa



A celebration of colour as the festivities for Holi kick off at the temple premises in Nandgaon. By Abhik Wadhwa



An aerial view of pilgrims taking a holy dip at the confluence of rivers Ganga, Yamuna and the invisible Saraswati at the Kumbh Mela. By Gaurav Agarwal



The Chand Baori, a stepwell that is approximately thousand years old. One that served as the primary source of water for countless villagers. By Raunak Sharma



One of the many waterfalls in the wettest place in the world, cascading down the Khasi Hills. By Abhik Wadhwa



The Vizhinjam village. By Anurag Jetly



India's second lunar exploration kicks off as the GSLV Mark III leaves its launchpad. By Jagya Naik M

CONVERSATION 60 MINUTES

'A LOVE LETTER TO HUMAN RACE'

Presenter BRIAN COX says that the series, *Human Universe*, explores the answers to the greatest questions ever asked about the existence of planets, alien life and the human brain. By TEAM VIVA

It is a story of humankind, told through the greatest questions ever asked. 'Where are we in the Universe?' 'What is the destiny of our planet?' 'How did the human brain arise and why did we develop consciousness?' 'Will our search for alien life be successful, or Earth is the only planet with life? Are we alone?'

Answering these questions, the series, *Human Universe* offers a new perspective on human life, combining dramatic photography with innovative CGI all set in spectacular locations across the world as it explores the ultimate wonder of the universe — us.

Excerpts of a conversation with presenter Brian Cox:

◆How would you sum up the series?

Human Universe is a love letter to the human race. It sounds like a very simple definition of a series but it didn't begin that simply. It started out as a cosmology series, an astronomy series, asking questions about how we came here, questions about the evolution of the human race, the origin of the Universe itself. Well, what we realised during the shoot was that, it was, it really became a series about our values.

Modern science has taught us that we are very rare as well as insignificant, and so the trick in the series was to put those two things together — what does it mean to be rare, and then, the consequence of an almost unbelievable series of accidents, but also insignificant. How do you marry these things?

The answers were — our rarity gives us value and also, because our existence seems to be completely meaningless, we're equally insignificant. We didn't have to be here. Hence, I think



we have a responsibility to look after ourselves, to protect ourselves, to find out about the Universe, and to do science.

In this way, if you put all these thoughts together, ultimately, you get a love letter.

◆What's special about the series?

I think of all the series I've made, this one is my favourite. I have a soft spot for the 'Wonders of the Solar System' because it's the first big thing that I did. And this one I think, for me, addresses the biggest questions. Undoubtedly, we're asking questions about, at one level, our existence, how did we come to be here, not only us as human beings, given the origin of life on Earth, but also the Universe itself. And the fact that modern, 21st century science is beginning to address these questions is remarkable.

At another level, it's also hinting at deeper questions like how to value ourselves and science, proceed for the future, and respect the acquisition of knowledge. This has been made most

explicit in the fifth programme, which is polemic. Many would have seen it in the past through series like *Cosmos*, *The Ascent of Man*, and some of James Burke's works. They have polemical elements.

I think this series is a bit old-fashioned, but in a good way. It has a collective opinion, which is delivered as mine but was actually generated throughout the series, through the collaboration with the crew and the directors, and everybody who worked on the series. I think that is what gives it some added depth and resonance.

◆What was your most memorable experience during the shoot?

The strangest experience I've ever had filming anything was the Soyuz capsule return into Kazakhstan. The reason is that the snow there was quite heavy and our vehicles were very under-powered. Essentially, we had the wrong vehicles, so we couldn't get there and got stuck. It was a disaster because it's the centre part of the series — return of the Soyuz capsule into Kazakhstan

— and we were faced with a situation where we couldn't film it because we couldn't reach there.

A film crew working for the Russian Army said to us, 'We can fit two of you in our vehicle. If you jump on these two snowmobiles and chase us and see if you can find us out there in the Kazakh wilderness.' So, I and Paul O'Callahan, the cameraman, jumped onto the snowmobiles, left everybody else and went off with the Russian Army, with no communication with our team.

No one spoke English, apart from one of the Russian cameramen. We stayed the night, partly in a Kazakh farmer's hut, who, as far as I could see, brought us horse and jam to eat, which was actually very good. And we finally filmed the return of the Soyuz capsule. It was a remarkable experience. You will see it at the end of episode 1, *Ape Man Space Man*, in one of the most iconic scenes of the series, that only two of us actually shot it.

(The series airs from August 17 to August 21 at 8 pm on Sony BBC Earth.)

STUDIO CHAT 30 MINUTES

Humans behind the cartoon

Actors WILL SMITH, NAOMI SCOTT and MENA MASSOUD offer a peek inside their characters in *Aladdin*, their families' reaction and some behind the scenes. By TEAM VIVA

Aladdin, a live action musical fantasy film is the reimagining of the 1992 animated classic from Walt Disney Pictures. The plot follows Aladdin (played by Mena Massoud), a street urchin, as he falls in love with Princess Jasmine (played by Naomi Scott), befriends a wish-granting Genie (played by Will Smith), and battles the wicked Jafar (played by Marwan Kenzari). Excerpts:

□What was your reaction when you found out that you are going to play the most iconic character in the history of cinema?

Naomi Scott: I was excited initially but was scared later with the thought of humanising an animated character that's iconic. You are going off animation which means there are definitely certain things that are the foundation of the character, humanising that person is exciting because then you could make her into a woman who is into so many different things. She is one of my favourite Disney princesses for real.

Mena Massoud: I didn't have the time to think about it. I got the project on a Wednesday and had to fly out on a Friday for six months. So I had a day and half to pack all my stuff because of Will's (Smith) schedule. It was a good thought because I didn't have the time to dwell on it, it was a blessing in disguise.

□Who in your family was the most excited when they found out about your role?

Mena: I came home after wrapping up a film and woke up my parents at 3 am. I have never seen my dad more excited. He jumped out of the bed and gave me a hug. My mom was half asleep and half crying. She was like 'really?'

Naomi: I think everyone may have told a few people what was going on at the time but my favourite reaction was of my friend Adrian who literally just went 'girl bye' and then hung up in there, it was good 15 minutes before he rang me back. The



other one was my friend Shelly who burst out crying and my brother, who cared I was in the film because of Will. He is not that keen about what I do apart from the fact that I am in a film with Will. He is his biggest fan in the world.

Will Smith: For me, the major thing was how huge and perfect the character Robin

William's had already played in the film. And I have been in these situations before where you have roles with people you have nostalgic emotional connection. I love Williams and what he did with the genie. One question I always ask myself with those kinds of roles is, is there any meat left on the bone? can you do a service to the love

and nostalgia that is connected to it while at the same time bring something new to the next generation? When I played genie, it was absolutely terrifying but post that I have never felt it in a strange way because the character becomes ingrained in people's hearts and minds in a way that it's a family member. I watched the film about 10

times, it had live action and distinct characters. I thought I would modernise the genie where I could pay homage to Robin and honour the widely respected depiction while at the same time bring something new.

□What was the most memorable day of shooting on the set?

Naomi: I would say shooting 'Speechless' because it was a very emotional day. I felt like I had to give myself some space getting to the zone because I was singing the first half live which is difficult, I was being moved around so you try to control your voice and then go into the song. I just had to give everything. That song is really important to that character because it is that point where she is being herself and is constantly being shut down and people can relate to that.

□Tell us about the line "My sultan, Jafar is not who he says he is!"

Mena: So you have heard the story. It was a really intense moment in a very dramatic scene. I had a few long days and I came in and completely fumbled the line. Will didn't let it go. I said something like 'hem whom nom seem him is'. It did come out like that and then we just couldn't stop laughing. Will actually got it made into a T-shirt wrapped up gift. I still wear it, it's part of my pyjamas. I can't wear it out though otherwise people would be like 'What is that?'

□What film would you like to be in if you had the choice? What if Aladdin was in it?

Mena: Maybe *Inglorious Basterds* of Quentin Tarantino — that is one of my favourite films of all time. The character work in that is amazing so I would love to do that. If Aladdin was in it, that would be a little weird, we would have to mature it up a little bit.

(The film airs today at 3 pm on Star Movies as a part of the 'Independence Day: Special Edition' pack.)

JUKEBOX 15 MINUTES



Salaam, reloaded

Singer-composer AR RAHMAN's iconic song, *Maa Tujhe Salaam*, gets a new, beatbox rendition

Main gaya jahan bhi
Bas teri yaad thi
Jo mere saath thi
Mujhko tadpati rulati
Sab se pyaari teri soorat
Pyaar hai bas tera, pyaar hi
Maa tujhe salaam...

For the last two decades and more, the song has been instrumental in instilling a sense of pride, patriotism and national unity among millions. Even after garnering a Guinness World Record for being the song performed in the most number of languages, singer-composer AR Rahman's *Maa Tujhe Salaam* doesn't cease to amuse many and generate a plethora of emotions.

Celebrating the 73rd Independence Day, MTV, in partnership with BBXINDIA, launches a recreated version of Rahman's *Maa Tujhe Salaam*, with a beatbox version.

This rendition of the



song, purely created with human mouth and vocal chords (vocal flute, Konakkol, and Beatbox only) for the first

time ever, is a modern-day tribute to the resilience of our nation. Through this offering, the channel also brings *Beatbox Hustle*, an innovative extension to its rap reality show.

The track also owes its newness to three artistes — Chennai-based beatboxer Raka Vee, founder of the collaborating beatboxing company; Ajinkya, a self-trained mouth musician from Mumbai who recreates the wind flute using his vocal cords; and Shivaraj Natraj, a well-trained Carnatic vocalist and Mridangam artist from Bangalore, also known as the *Konnakol* beatboxer who combines the oldest vocal percussion (*Konnakol*) with modern-age beatboxing and brings the true mix of Indian beatbox flavour.

(There will be a series of Live sessions with Raka Vee for the next four weeks on MTV Hustle's Instagram.)

